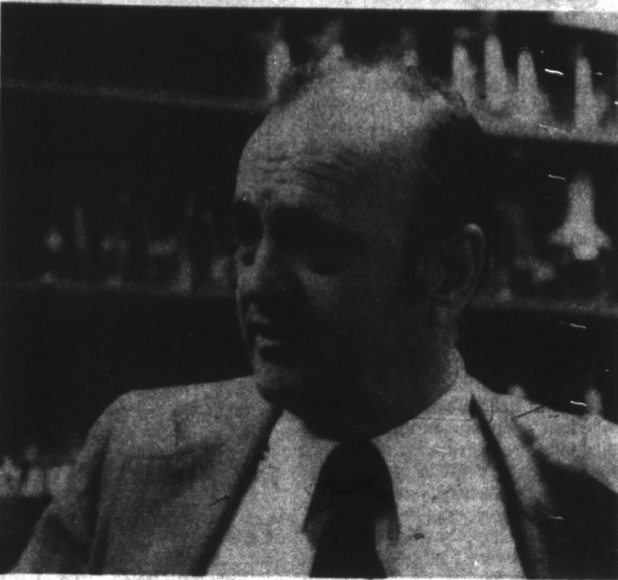


MBC Speaker

Archaeologist Will Be Bible Teacher



By Tim Nicholas

When Jerry Vardaman, featured "Bible Treasure" speaker for the 1977 meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, thinks of events in the Bible, he has in his mind a better picture than most — at least a more accurate one.

Vardaman is director of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology based at Mississippi State University and a veteran of more than 20 trips to the Holy Land, including work on numerous excavations.

An ordained minister, Vardaman avoids leaning on his archaeological knowledge for his Christian faith. "I don't use archaeology to prove the Bible," he says. "This is a misuse of it. I use it to help us understand the Bible."

He's been working on what is generally known as the problem of Cyrenius (Quirinius). Gospel writer Luke mentions him as governor of Syria at the time of Jesus' birth. An existing document called the Aemilius Secundus Inscription from Beirut has resisted being dated. Vardaman feels he has dated it, confirming Luke's statement.

Vardaman's opinion is based on scribbling he's found on the Inscription, scribbling Vardaman calls faint or micro-lettering. He's found the faint lettering on coins, documents, scrolls, and gravestones.

It's an almost untouched area of archaeological research but fully as slow and painstaking as the unearthing of a tel in Israel. He takes an enlarged photograph of a coin and places it on a light table and under tracing paper. Even the uninitiated can see some of what Vardaman's trained eyes are documenting.

The lettering offers sometimes a dozen synchronisms on one coin with overlapping eras, battles, birthdays. Vardaman's getting the personal names of such personages as Herod, Festus, and Herod Antipas.

Vardaman's archeological bent began during research for his doctoral dissertation on the influences on John's Gospel. "I became more interested in the total New Testament environment, not only the literary aspects," he says.

His theological education began on the front row of Dallas First Baptist Church, "under the drippings of the sanctuary," he says, laughing. George W. Truett was his pastor. Vardaman remembers thinking of him as "maybe the fourth person of the trinity. Intellectually and spiritually he was a towering giant of a man." Vardaman was deeply influenced by Truett's depth of spirituality.

However, it was at age 18 — after nearly three years in the Marine Corps — he lied about his age — that Vardaman made a profession of faith, led to Christ by his sister. A year later he felt a call to become a preacher. "I didn't know there were other forms of service," he says.

A short catch-up term at Tarleton University, Stephenville, Tex., cleared him for college, then Baylor University for undergraduate work, then Southwestern Seminary at Fort Worth for a theological education that included a doctor of philosophy degree.

Teaching at Southwestern during doctoral studies led him to understand that in teaching lay his spiritual gifts. He later taught Old Testament and biblical archaeology from 1959-72 at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky. And in 1972, he came to the Cobb Institute.

He feels he hasn't "left the ministry" by going to a state school. "I'm here because of ministry," he says. "The gospel ministers to a person's intellectual needs as well as his spiritual needs." Vardaman preaches nearly every Sunday and has served as interim pastor of several North Mississippi churches. He is careful not to "preach on company time," he says. He'll be taking three days of vacation to speak to the Mississippi Baptist Convention, Nov. 15-17.

His wife is the former Alfene Jolly of Myrtle, Miss. They have two daughters.

New Refugee Wave

ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptist sponsors are needed to help care for a new wave of Indochinese refugees now waiting at refugee camps in Malaysia and Thailand.

Since 1975, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Foreign Mission Board has been ministering to the thousands of refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, who fled to Thailand after the Communist takeover of their lands.

Now, many of the refugees are joining the 150,000 Asians who found homes in the United States in the aftermath of the collapse of Vietnam.

According to Irvin Dawson, director of the SBC Home Mission Board's office of immigration and refugee service, some 15,000 refugees are expected to immigrate to the United States in the newest wave.

More than half of the refugees are what Dawson referred to as "boat cases" — people who escape in small

boats... drifting until they were picked up."

The impact of the newest refugees already is being felt by Church World Service, the resettlement and relief agency with which Southern Baptists cooperate.

"All denominations — including Southern Baptists — are finding churches very hesitant to commit themselves to sponsorship of the new wave of refugees."

Dawson said he believes this reluctance on the part of Southern Baptists is caused by "a lack of information. I think Southern Baptists have not known the need. When they do, they will come through this time like they have in the past."

The Home Mission Board staffer also noted sponsorship will be facilitated "because for the first time we have in every state convention persons who will serve as immigration and refugee coordinators." Churches, as-

sociations or individuals interested in sponsorship may contact the state coordinators or the office of immigration and refugee service at the Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

Rodney Webb of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is the contact person for Mississippi. Anyone in the state wishing for more information may contact Webb at: P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Some of the refugees are expected to be Christians. Foreign Mission Board records indicate some 1,800 made professions of faith and were baptized while in the Thai camps.

Southern Baptists have channeled more than \$63,000 to aid the refugees in Thailand. Wakefield said several missionaries — Dan Cobb, Ron Hill, Doug Kellum and Linda Pegram — have worked closely with the people.

Food, clothing, medicine, toiletries, mosquito nets, building materials, garden supplies and animals have been purchased and distributed by

foreign missionaries, some driving as far as 40 miles to deliver weekly supplies and then returning several times during the week to minister in other ways.

Intensive Bible study — as much as four hours daily — has been offered to those interested in learning about Christ, says Maxine (Mrs. Robert R.) Stewart, Southern Baptist missionary press representative.

Regular worship services were established in each camp and missionaries minister to spiritual needs of the refugees through the services as well as on an individual basis, Mrs. Stewart said.

"Because many of these refugees have had this contact with Baptists in the camps, I hope Southern Baptists in the States will follow up this contact and take advantage of the ministry in which Baptists already have been involved," Wakefield said. "Since so many of the refugees know who Baptists are, this is a marvelous opportunity to further witness."

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World Bishops Are Feeling Evangelical Influence

ROME (BP) — The message of Baptists and other evangelicals is being heard at the world Synod of Bishops meeting here.

Cincinnati Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin, president of the U. S. Conference of Bishops, told the 206 bishops that in the U. S. the desire to do catechetical (religious instruction) work "is strongest among those who have come to understand their Christian life as the response to their personal experience of Jesus Christ as Savior, Redeemer and Lord."

"How can children come to Jesus unless they see living witnesses?" Bishop Raymond Lucker of New Ulm, Minn., and a national expert on catechesis, asked the bishops later. He took note of many adult church members who have become inactive and then saw a greater need.

"Worse, vast numbers, while continuing to attend church services and fulfill minimal observances, have never really been converted," he declared.

Lucker described this conversion as coming from "a living faith, the response of the total person, under the grace of God, to the living Word of God. It is the surrender of one's self, one's life, one's heart, one's hands and feet to the Lord Jesus. Being born again is at the very heart of the Christian life," he said.

The agenda of the Synod, as approved by Pope Paul VI for the four weeks' discussion, is "Catechesis in Our Time, with Particular Reference to Children and Youth." Appropriate-

ly, it follows the 1974 Synod on "Evangelization of the Nations." A year later, the Pope issued an "apostolic exhortation," noting that "The Gospels must be proclaimed." That has stimulated interest in evangelization and missionary activity afresh.

The makeup of the Synod reflects world emphasis; with 56 from Europe, plus 20 more from the Pope's administrators (the Curia), 37 from Africa, 24 from South America, 22 from Asia, 14 from Central America, 6 from the U.S. and 4 from Canada. The Iron Curtain countries sent 12, plus 2 from Vietnam.

There was some pre-Synod unhappiness over the theme. It seemed that catechesis might be restricted to children and youth. But the first week's speeches quickly broadened that to focus primarily on adults. They, themselves, are in need of continuing catechesis to mature in the faith. Parents are the first catechists. Often, in countries where church schools are prohibited, the laity are the most available ones.

Catechesis, in the minds of the bishops, runs the whole range from preparing children for first communion to "raising the consciousness" of the poor to claim their political and economic rights. It may happen in the classroom, but it is only effective if the family and the Christian community make it come alive in their own environment.

Very little is heard from the bishops over concern for orthodoxy in textbooks. In the U.S., the Catholics United for the Faith are a small but loud lobby. They have even sent personal letters to every Synod member urging him to stand pat. But most of the bishops are not buying that kind of stagnation.

Some novel experiments have surfaced. In Zaire, for example, Catholics have worked with others to produce a "common catechism" that can be used in the state-run schools. Each group finds ways to go beyond this to teach its own distinctives.

"Incarnation" rather than "adaptation" is the strategy of the approach to diverse cultures. How do you insert Christ and His Gospel into the heart of a non-Christian world? In one form or another that is every Christian community's challenge.

Still another experiment in Thailand seeks to bring adolescents together for three months. They live in common, study the Christian faith and worship and pray together. They are even

asked for the period to take the classic three vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. It sounds exactly like life in

(Continued on page 2)

First, Jackson Sets Record In Attendance

A total of 2,322 persons attended Sunday School at Jackson First Baptist Church, Sunday, Oct. 31, which was high attendance day in the Southern Baptist Convention. Figures for attendance throughout the state will be available later.

TM In Public Schools Ruled Unconstitutional

NEWARK, N. J. (BP) — A federal court judge here ruled that the "science of creative intelligence" (Transcendental Meditation) is religious in nature and that government sponsored classes in TM at several New Jersey schools are unconstitutional.

Judge Curtis H. Meador of the U. S. District Court declared the program, which used a \$40,000 grant from the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, "violates the establishment of religion clause of the U. S. Constitution's First Amendment." He declared that its teaching in five New Jersey high schools "must be enjoined."

Plaintiffs had charged that Transcendental Meditation contains substantial elements of Hinduism, and, as such, should not be taught in public schools. The plaintiffs included

Americans United For Separation of Church and State, a group called the Coalition for Religious Integrity, the Berkely (Calif.) Christian Coalition, and 11 individual Protestant and Roman Catholic plaintiffs.

Americans United, which halted the ruling, said it could result in removal of TM courses from public schools in several other states. The organization reported last May that more than \$300,000 in federal, state and local funds had been allocated to promote the teaching of TM.

The Southern Baptist Convention, in its June, 1976 annual meeting in Norfolk, criticized federal funding of TM, charging in a resolution it has "affinities with Hinduism." The resolution called on "government to observe a posture of strict neutrality which neither advances nor inhibits religion."

First Couple Sent; Needs List Varies

MENOMONIE, Wisc. (BP) — The first Southern Baptist Home Mission Board Mission Service Corps couple has been approved and assigned here.

Elgin and Jean Lee of Doniphan, Mo., will serve the River Heights Baptist Church in Menomonee through an anonymous gift which will provide their support for two years.

Mission Service Corps (MSC) — a plan for enlisting and utilizing Southern Baptist volunteers in full-time mission work for a period of one or two years, was adopted by the 1977 Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City, Mo., following a video-taped challenge by President Jimmy Carter.

The plan calls for 5,000 mission volunteers by 1982 to serve either at home or abroad supporting themselves or being supported by designated gifts. MSC personnel will work under the direction of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, state mission board and/or district associations. Volunteers may apply by writing P. O. Box 7203, Atlanta, Ga. 30309.

The Lees moved to Menomonee in late October, where he will be church pastor.

The MSC assignment came after several weeks coordination between the Minnesota/Wisconsin Southern Baptist Fellowship and the Home Mission Board in Atlanta. The details of the assignment were handled through Gerald Palmer, director of the board's missions section, and the church extension department.

In the future, assignments for MSC for the HMB will be facilitated through the Home Mission Board's director of MSC coordination, a position approved during the fall director's meeting in Atlanta but not yet filled.

Before the move, Lee, 57, was pastor of First Baptist Church in Doniphan

RICHMOND (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has compiled a preliminary list of more than 50 opportunities for volunteer service on foreign mission fields through the newly created Mission Service Corps.

The range of job requests is varied. Possibilities include service as a pastor, professor, houseparent, businessman, Sunday school consultant, printer, teacher, mechanic and others.

Eleven of the requests are for interim pastors. Lewis I. Myers Jr., associate to the director of the board's overseas division, has been given the primary responsibility for the coordination of Mission Service Corps for the Foreign Mission Board.

The board has received more than 20 requests from potential volunteers for more information on Mission Service Corps and is waiting to receive and process those applications. (Interested persons may apply by writing to Mission Service Corps, Southern Baptist Convention, Box 7203, Atlanta, Ga. 30309.)

The Foreign Mission Board has set up basic guidelines for its utilization of the volunteers in the program which seeks 5,000 volunteers for one or two years' service at home or abroad by 1982.

As in all volunteer or career missionary service, requests for foreign missions personnel come from the missionaries serving in a particular mission field. The board feels that the missionaries serving in a country are best able to identify what personnel are needed, Myers said. "We at the board may make the availability of volunteers known to the missionaries," Myers said, "but the request for their service must come from the missionaries."

(Continued on page 3)

Just Before Convention

SBC President Jimmy Allen Is Brotherhood Rally Speaker

By Don McGregor

Jimmy Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, will be the keynote speaker for the annual Brotherhood Conference Nov. 14 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson.

The conference will follow a banquet which begins at 5:30 p.m. at Broadmoor.

The theme for the annual Brotherhood Rally, which is made up of the banquet and the conference, will be "Focus on Ministry." Allen will speak on "A Bold Ministry," in keeping with the Southern Baptist emphasis of "Bold Mission — Let the Church Reach Out." The Mississippi Baptist Convention begins the next day with the theme, "Mission: Reaching Out with All Boldness."

The Brotherhood has adopted a "Bold Challenge," which encompasses (1) Every church adopting at least one mission ministry project in 1978 and (2) Every association adopting at least one out-of-state mission ministry project in 1978.

David Grant, host pastor, will welcome those attending the conference and lead in prayer. Bill Clemmons, a consultant in the Brotherhood Commission, will deliver a "Bold Challenge"; and Gene Hendrix, minister of education at First Baptist Church, Clinton, will give a "Bold Response."

J. M. Wood, minister of music at Broadmoor, will lead the singing; and

Paul Harrell, director of the Brotherhood Department, will preside.

Allen has been pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, since 1968. Before that he was executive secretary of the Christian Life Commission for the Baptist General Convention of Texas. He has been pastor of several other churches in Texas and has served as president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

He was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention this year in Kansas City.

Another feature of the Brotherhood Rally will be the Texas Baptist Disaster Relief Unit, which will be on the parking lot at Broadmoor. Visitors will be able to inspect it. The Mississippi Brotherhood Department is in the process of developing a disaster relief program, and a part of the Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions goes for this purpose.

Following the Brotherhood Rally the Texas disaster unit will be moved to the First Baptist Church parking lot for display during the convention.



The Morrison Heights Ladies' Washboard Band from Clinton will strike up for the Brotherhood Banquet which is a part of the Brotherhood Rally, Nov. 14. Also featured is Armando Silverio, a missionary and humorist from St. Augustine, Fla. The banquet begins at 5:30 at Jackson's Broadmoor Baptist Church and tickets are \$3 per person, sold through the Brotherhood Department office on a first come, first served basis. Seating is limited to slightly over 500. Write, including amount for total of tickets requested to: Paul Harrell, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Southeastern Adopts Campus Plan; Elects Sunday School Professor

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP) — A comprehensive master campus plan for Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here was adopted by the school's board of trustees in its semi-annual meeting.

Along with the campus plan, the trustees also set in motion a procedure to secure resources for the long-range project and elected Bruce Powers of Nashville, Tenn., as associate professor of Christian education, in cooperation with a Southern Baptist Sunday School Board professorship program.

The master campus plan, developed by Snooddy & McCulloch of Charlotte, N. C., comes as a result of a 3-year long range planning effort by the seminary. It is one of 20 objectives adopted by the trustees in March, 1977, which cover all aspects of the seminary's program.

The plan calls for extensive improvement, renovation, and "recycling" of the 145-year old campus, from 1832 to 1956 the home of Wake Forest College. Purchased in 1950 by the Southern Baptist Convention, the campus was occupied jointly from 1951 to 1956 by the college and the seminary. Wake Forest College moved to a new campus in Winston-Salem in 1956.

During the next 25 years several new buildings were added along with housing for married students. However, existing buildings and systems have received very little modification.

In its studies, the seminary faced an increasing enrollment and a need for efficient and adequate facilities for all phases of its operation. Enrollment now stands at 1,150, only slightly under that of Wake Forest College when it moved in 1956.

The trustees also acted on recommendations from the school's development council of 28 business leaders, and its administration, that an extensive program of financial development be instituted.

They voted to adopt a four-year program which includes a tentative goal of \$6,565,000, a series of 31 educational meetings during the spring of 1978, and participation in the national joint fund raising campaign for the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries, scheduled to begin in 1979. The goal includes funds for faculty endowment, endowed professorships and lectureships, and capital improvements.

Powers, a native of Savannah, Ga., comes to Southeastern Seminary from the Baptist School Board in Nashville. Since 1975, he has been coordinator of the Church Program Training Center. He will teach in the field of educational administration and programming beginning January, 1978. He holds master of religious education and doctor of education degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He was employed by Southeastern

Seminary as a result of a Sunday School Board professorship program, through which seminaries employ professors to keep students and faculty informed about facilities, programs and services of the board. In the plan, approved by trustees of the board and of the six Southern Baptist seminaries, the seminary elects the professor, assigns responsibility and supervises. The board reimburses the seminary a sum equal to the salary and fringe benefits on a scale equal to other faculty members.

In other developments, the trustees: —Heard a report that the campaign for its endowed professorship in evangelism had reached \$264,000 in pledges toward the December, 1978 goal of \$500,000.



Participants formed share groups for the weekend event.

CeLAYbration Introduced Lay Renewal To State

(Continued from P.1)

evening.... Jesus not only participated in this religious ritual of prayer; he went beyond it: He prayed at times other than the prescribed times; He prayed to God as Father; and the content of His prayer was primarily thanksgiving.

Mahoney's message on Saturday afternoon was "Journey Outward," — the Christian reaching out to share his faith with others.

The "lay" in CeLAYbration is an emphasis on the laity being included in ministry through lifestyle evangelism — a concept whereby a person becomes evangelistic with his or her whole lifestyle.

Lay men and women and pastors giving testimonies Friday night and Saturday morning included Bill Duncan, Long Beach; Nobie and Ernest

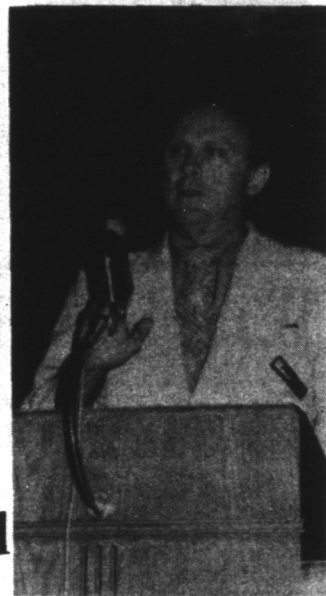
—Established a surcharge fee of \$150 per semester for non-Southern Baptist students to become effective with the fall semester, 1978, a practice consistent with that of other Southern Baptist Convention seminaries. All the seminaries receive a major portion of their funds from Southern Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program, making it possible to provide seminary training for a basic matriculation fee of \$150 per semester. No other tuition is charged.

—Elected officers for the 1977-78 year. Tom Brandon of Sherman, Tex., was re-elected chairman; Edgar Wyatt of Raleigh, N. C., vice-chairman; John Howell of Louisville, Ky., secretary, and David Britt of Raleigh, N. C., treasurer.

—Established the Edward A. McDowell Jr. Greek Award, named in honor of the New Testament professor who taught at Southeastern from 1952 to 1964.

—Approved a recommendation that \$49,849 received from the challenge funds of the Southern Baptist Convention's national Cooperative Program unified budget be used for a 2 percent on base salaries distribution to the employees, for classroom equipment and supplies, and for the program of financial development.

—Heard a report that proceeds from the estate of Homer Lang, a Charlotte, N. C., layman, now amounts to approximately \$390,600 in cash and stocks in addition to real estate holdings.



"Renewal is awakening the church to a ministering laity," Reid Hardin told the CeLAYbration participants. Hardin is lay renewal staffer for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

College Seeks Debt Lessening

DALLAS (RNS) — Dallas Baptist College may have rescued itself in the nick of time.

President William Thorn has advanced a plan to raise \$3 million in three years and save the college from losing its accreditation in December.

The school was placed on a one-year probation last December by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, primarily because a very heavy percentage of its income is used to retire capital debt.

Thorn's plan depends on the use of the school's resources and those of the Dallas Baptist Association and the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

He said approval of the association's part in the plan, approximately \$200,000, came in mid-October. The state convention executive board must approve the plan at its December meeting.

The convention is being asked to sell, for \$700,000, land donated to the school. It already had given the school an emergency grant of \$175,000 last May.

Thorn said the plan calls for the college to raise \$675,000 by December, a goal he says has been halfway met. The school must also raise an additional \$600,000 over three years.

Gunter of Tupelo; J. D. Evans of Jackson; Doyle Pennington, Tupelo; Emerson Tedder, Pearl; Buford and Lov Hayes, Biloxi.

Ron and Pat Owens began each session with special music.

Other speakers were Carl Savell, pastor of the host church; David Haney, director of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission's lay renewal department; Bill Clemmons, consultant with the Brotherhood Commission; and Reid Hardin, director, Renewal Evangelism, Home Mission Board.

The CeLAYbration was sponsored by the Brotherhood Commission, the Home Mission Board, and the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Paul Harrell, Brotherhood Department director, coordinated the event.



Mexican Church Constitutes

After the constituting service of Benjamin Burgos Memorial Baptist Church in Shelby, participants went to Duncan Baptist Church for a Mexican dinner. Frank Ruiz, interim pastor for the new church, is in center of picture with dark hair.

Nicaraguans Thank SBC For Drought Relief

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (BP) — Nicaraguan Baptists have expressed gratitude to Southern Baptists for two separate donations totaling \$13,100 for drought relief.

"We in Nicaragua have been able to feel the brotherhood, fellowship and solidarity of the Baptists from the world over, through the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention," Octavio Cortez, president of the Social Service and Community Development Commission of the Baptist Convention of Nicaragua, wrote in a letter to Charles W. Bryan, Foreign Mission Board area secretary for Middle America and the Caribbean.

"That is why we want to express our appreciation for your donation... toward our 1976 drought relief program. This program benefits 265 Baptist families in 14 rural communities..."

Funds were used to purchase basic food staples and essential seeds to replanting for the 1977 season. This year's rains, although still below normal, seem to be better than those of the two previous years and promise at least some improvement in crop yields, according to Stanley D.

Stamps, Southern Baptist missionary press representative.

Southern Baptist funds were used to buy more than 37,000 pounds of rice, beans, corn and cooking oil, which constitute the basis of a typical rural farm family's diet, according to Cortez.

Drought relief funds also allowed the convention to buy 12,800 pounds of improved seed corn for replanting as soon as rains began falling in June. The country had been in drought conditions since 1975. During this period, many families, totally dependent upon farming for their living, were seriously affected by a lack of work and crop failure. Many lost their small flocks of poultry and other small farm animals.

Nicaraguan Baptists contributed over \$3,200 in a special offering promoted late in March. Members observed a day of fasting and offering for the drought program.

Committee Probes Wake Forest Grant

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. (RNS) — A committee of the North Carolina Baptist Convention has raised questions about a \$300,000 federal grant to Baptist-related Wake Forest University.

The grant to the school's biology department, issued by the National Science Foundation, is designated for buildings, equipment and salaries. Although the funds were accepted by the university, the money is held in escrow pending investigation by the committee.

Convention policy forbids its affiliated schools from accepting government funds unless they cover services rendered by the schools.

Coy C. Privette, convention president, noted that "the committee hasn't looked upon capital investments by schools with favor. We just don't think

Baptist schools should take money from the general taxpayers to operate."

John Lewis of Raleigh, chairman of the review committee, said the committee feels that the portion of the grant designated for buildings and equipment should be returned. "We haven't figured out," he said, "how much is considered to be for capital improvements and how much is for research, but the committee feels that the capital funds should be returned. It's in our constitution that no grant can be self-serving."

Gerald Each, chairman of the Wake Forest biology department, said "the committee doesn't understand that our facilities will be used for research."

By teaching we are providing a service to the minds of students; the medical school deals with bodies."

Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Winston-Salem, N. C. (RNS) — The Concord Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S., at its annual Fall meeting here, urged its 173 churches in 26 western North Carolina counties to pay their ministers salaries in line with the median salary level in their communities, set a base salary minimum of \$8,960, and warned that it will not approve the call of any minister whose salary is set a lower figure.

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — A new report by the National Alliance Concerned with School-Aged Parents reveals that pregnancies among 10-14 years olds are increasing and abortions now exceed births in that age group. "More women 14 and younger received abortions than delivered living children in 1975, the study said, noting that there were 1,193 abortions for every 1,000 births.

Trenton, N.J. (RNS) — The executive director of New Jersey's Right to Life Committee, an anti-abortion agency, has called on the U. S. government to promote a national health insurance program that would focus on the unborn and recognize that a child's health concerns begin with conception, not birth.

Kansas City, Mo. (RNS) — The General Assembly of the 1.3 million-member Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has paved the way for possible future union with the 1.8 million member United Church of Christ in action taken here. In a resolution passed by voice vote the Disciples assembly authorized "conversations to explore the possible union of the Christian Church and the United Church of Christ" and directed that "a two-year exploration regarding union be made together at all levels of the life of these two Churches."

Richmond (BP) — Eloise G. Cauthen, wife of Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will give royalties received from a book she has written about her father, W. B. Glass, to the board to benefit missions. The book, expected to be published by Broadman Press in March 1978, under the title "Higher Ground," tells of Glass' experiences as a Southern Baptist missionary to China. He served in Shantung Province for 40 years, 34 of which he taught at the North China Baptist Theological Seminary in Hwanghsien.

Prohibition Party Tests A New Name

DENVER (RNS) — In an effort to get away from its single-issue anti-alcohol image, the National Prohibition Party is experimentally changing its name to the National Statesman Party.

"We haven't changed our principles, though. Not at all," said Earl F. Dodge, executive secretary of the Prohibition National Committee.

"We believe in the eventual prohibition of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages," he said. "But we're not stupid. We know the majority of American people do not favor such a law now. We work on educating people to the problems connected with the use of alcohol and we hope that 20 or 30 years down the road, we'll see prohibition."

"It's frustrating to have this single-issue image when you think of all the reforms we've initiated," Mr. Dodge said. "The Prohibition Party was the first to advocate women's suffrage, child labor laws and direct election of senators."



Montana Suit Drive Begins

The Mississippi-Montana Fellowship and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Brotherhood Department have joined forces to provide new suits for all Southern Baptist pastors in Montana.

This is the 12th year for this ministry which has been sponsored in the past by the Brotherhood Department. Money for the project should be channeled through the Brotherhood Department by church Brotherhood groups. More than 930 suits have been given thus far.

Deadline date for receipt of funds is Dec. 1, in order for suits to be ordered and delivered by Christmas. Write: Suit Fund, Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

The Mississippi-Montana Fellowship is a group of laymen and ministers who are interested in or involved in Montana ministry.

Pictured left to right are committee members: Al Whitehead, microbiologist at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center; Wilbur Irwin, pastor of Forest Hill Baptist Church in Jackson; Paul Harrell, state Brotherhood director; Crawley Stubblefield, retired internal revenue employee from Jackson; and Cooper Walton, employee of the Farmers' Home Administration in Jackson.

Medical Center Holds Religious Education Week

"Christ in My Life" is the theme of the Religious Education Week agenda at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center November 7-9.

Members of a three-person team will meet with students, in class and in special sessions, during those three days, according to BSU director Kathy Bearden.

The team includes Nell Magee, with the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tenn.; Ellen Sullivan, of Tyertown; and Joe Tuten, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson.

Co-chairmen of the arrangements committee at MBMC are Jan Moody, medical-technology student, and Diane Armstrong, radiology student. Musical activities will be coordinated

by Gene Rester, of the MBMC cardiovascular unit.

The faculty of the MBMC student programs will host the three guest speakers at a coffee on November 7, and the MBMC administration will

host the speakers at a noon luncheon that same day.

Group sessions are scheduled for 6:30 p.m. all three days in the student-recreation hall at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.



Pictured seated left to right are Jan Moody, student in medical technology, and Darlene Armstrong, student in radiology, co-chairing the religious emphasis week. Standing are Gene Rester, who will be directing music, Mrs. L. W. Harding, assistant administrator, and Paul Pryer, executive director of the Baptist Medical Center.

World Bishops

(Continued from Page 1)

a Baptist college during the Depression!

The Synod will do well to stay close to Archbishop Bernardin's five evangelical principles upon which to base catechesis: justification by grace and not by law; the calling of God to His way of life; becoming one of "the New Men" in union with Christ and living such in community; the relation between God's revealed Word and His acts in history; and the power of the Spirit to live in Christ.

If this is what catechesis is all about, no wonder Baptists and other evangelicals can get enthusiastic about what is happening in Rome.

Hastings is assistant director (research in Catholicism), Department of Interfaith Witness, at the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board.

MBREA Plans Luncheon, Nov. 15

The Naturals from Mississippi College will be featured at the annual luncheon of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15 in the Student Center of Mississippi College.

Under the direction of Jack Lyall, chairman of fine arts at the college, The Naturals combine their singing ability with expert choreography and colorful outfits.

The Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association is the professional organization of religious educators in Baptist churches and colleges in Mississippi. The group includes ministers of education, ministers of music and education, ministers of music and youth, age group workers, professors of religious education, associational directors of missions and church and denominational secretaries. Two major meetings are held yearly — the luncheon during the state convention and an annual convention being held in 1978 on Feb. 23, 24, 25 in Biloxi at the Sheraton-Biloxi Motor Inn.

The luncheon this year is being hosted by Lewis Nobles and Mississippi College. Phil McCarty, professor of Religious Education at Mississippi College and president-elect of the M.B.R.E.A., is in charge of arrangements for the luncheon. Buses will be provided to transport members from the state convention to Mississippi College and return for the afternoon session of the convention. These buses will leave First Baptist Church, Jackson immediately following the close of the morning session.

Reservations for the luncheon are necessary and can be made by contacting Mrs. Agnes Batson, secretary, M.B.R.E.A., Box 530, Jackson, Mississippi, 39205 no later than Thursday, November 10.

Gifts To CP

Mississippi Increase Is Above National Average

Gifts from Mississippi Baptist churches through the office of the treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention for the fiscal year which ended Sept. 30 amounted to \$2,444,971, according to an announcement by Porter Routh.

Routh, the SBC treasurer, said that the Mississippi gifts for this past year amounted to an increase of 11.96 per cent over the year before.

The total gifts channeled through the Cooperative Program and the SBC treasurer's office were \$51,940,459. This was an 11.16 per cent increase over the year before for the nation.

Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer for the Mississippi Baptist Convention, said, "Mississippi Baptists have always been mission minded. This continues to be illustrated by the fact that even though we are not quite up to budget expectations we are still above the national average in percentage increase for gifts through the Cooperative Program."

"Public Owns Airwaves"

Baptist Editors Say No To TV Freedom

By David Wilkinson

NASHVILLE (BP) — Does television enjoy unlimited freedom under the protection of the First Amendment which decrees: "Congress shall make no law... abridging freedom of speech or of the press..."?

"No" is the nearly unanimous response of Southern Baptist state paper editors, who as journalists and as Baptists consider themselves strong supporters of the First Amendment.

"The First Amendment does not give unlimited rights to television broadcasting," declared Lynn P. Clayton, editor of the Kansas - Nebraska Baptist Digest.

Emphasizing "unlimited" as the key word, Clayton said that "responsibility in freedom has always involved responsible limitations."

"The public owns the airwaves," he explained. "The Federal Communications Commission has been charged with the responsibility to make sure that each television station uses the airwaves for the public good and welfare."

Although interpretations differed somewhat, Clayton's response represented the consensus of state paper editors who responded to a three-question survey prepared by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). Editors of 20 of the denomination's 33 state publications, covering SBC work in 50 states, responded.

In the Christian Life Commission's survey, all of the editors agreed to some extent with Clayton's assessment that television does not have unlimited rights. Some, however, hesitated to give unqualified answers, and two indicated indecision on the issue.

The survey also showed general agreement among the editors that laws should bar certain things from television broadcasting, but the journalists gave contrasting opinions on the question of allowing local viewing areas to determine their own standards for television programming.

In answering "no" to the question of unlimited rights, James Lee Young, editor of Colorado's Rocky Mountain Baptist, claimed that "with freedom comes responsibility. No one in this country in the field of journalism," he added, "has unlimited rights when it comes to freedom of speech."

Jack Harwell of the Georgia Christian Index concurred, adding, "TV is free to be responsible, not to be destructive. Parents and children have freedoms also; one is to be protected from garbage being dumped on the den floor by a TV set."

Donald T. McGregor of the Mississippi Baptist Record sees a distinction between television and newspapers.

"Unlike a newspaper, which has to pay for newsprint on which to print its product, television beams its message and its product through airwaves which belong to the public," McGregor said. "Therefore, it should not expect to be able to exercise the same freedom of expression that a newspaper would. It should not even enjoy the same freedom of expression that a movie house might expect."

Bob Terry of Missouri's Word and Way, J. Everett Sneed of the Arkansas Baptist News-magazine and Julian Pentecost of the Virginia Religious

Herald qualified their "no" answers to the survey's first question.

"There are certain areas where freedom must be protected," wrote Terry. "Basically, this is in freedom of the press to report on television or radio, as well as the print media, what is going on in the world and the involvement of personalities in those events. But to say the 'freedom of speech' clause provides a blanket of immunity around television is beyond any conclusion I can presently reach."

Sneed offered a similar opinion, while Pentecost drew a distinction between freedom of speech and unlimited rights. The freedom of speech clause included in the First Amendment, he said, "was not intended as license to use the pornographic and the profane."

Responses to the second question, "What specifically should be barred by law from television broadcasting?" ranged from "anything that would fall under the Supreme Court definitions of obscenity" to "anything that promotes lawlessness or immorality either directly or indirectly." One editor added parenthetically that "anything rated 'R' at the movie house should not be shown on the tube — even after it's edited."

John Roberts of the South Carolina Baptist Courier commented that "anything that is not a topic of conversation in polite society" should be barred. "Anyone who does not understand where this line is drawn needs exposure to polite society," he said, adding that he would ban "shady references to body functions, off color jokes, approval of immoral life, and the flaunting of sexual promiscuity and unnatural sex."

Young commented in his response, "To deal with issues in a documentary sense portraying a man's condition, good or bad, in a proper light, but again using good taste, is a different thing than idealizing and lending endorsement to conditions and patterns of living that contribute to the demise, rather than the progress of the human species."

Editors divided most on the third question: "Should a viewing area be allowed to determine its own standards for television programming?" Nine said "yes," another nine voted "no," and two remained undecided.

Most of the editors indicated that the viewing public should determine "good taste" in programming, and several expressed hope that television would regulate itself voluntarily, instead of waiting for governmental intervention or controls.

Mississippians In Missions In Ohio

Alton Hodnett, pastor of Wayside Baptist Church in Vicksburg, gave half his vacation this summer to travel to Belpre, Ohio with his son Timothy, where they held a Vacation Bible School and a Backyard Bible Study.

While in Belpre, working under the leadership of Mel Hobson of nearby Vienna, W. Va., the Hodnetts "were able to see people saved," said Hodnett who camped out with his son during their ten day stay in Belpre.



The Naturals

sion of the convention. These buses will leave First Baptist Church, Jackson immediately following the close of the morning session.

Tragedy Moves Oil Field Worker Into Ministry

By Aubrey Rodgers

FORT WORTH (BP) — Ken Hurley recently began serving his first pastorate in a small mission church located in New Holland, Pennsylvania. Not a particularly remarkable feat for a recent seminary graduate.

However, the circumstances and changes which led Hurley, at age 42, to give up a comfortable lifestyle, enter the seminary and then begin serving this mission church are remarkable.

The changes for Hurley began with a family tragedy in 1971 when his three children drowned in a Father's Day outing at Lake Arrowhead.

"They just got too far out from shore and fell in a hole or something," Hurley said, remembering the sadness of the day.

While searchers were trying to find the bodies of Lisa Kim, 11, Kenneth Jr., 8, and John David, 7, Hurley watched from the shore.

As he stood there he had an experience he described as finding Jesus Christ, bringing to an end his life of conflict.

The following Sunday, Hurley was baptized at Fairway Baptist Church.

"The next week, during the funeral, the people of Wichita Falls were just wonderful," Hurley said. Donations raised more than \$7,000 to pay funeral expenses. News media carried the report of the triple drownings nationally and donations came from all parts of the country.

"It's just an example of God's love that I had never realized. This gave me a totally different attitude toward people. Before, I had always been fighting and running from people," he explained.

HMB

(Continued from page 1)

for three years. He had served previously with the Missouri Baptist Convention 18 years — 15 years as state director of student work and three years as statistician.

FMB

(Continued from page 1)

Assuming the request from the mission field is in hand, Myers and the consultants who work with volunteers review possible assignments. A board screening committee from different departments makes the final decision about the suitability of a volunteer for a specific job. After qualifying medically, the volunteer is commissioned. Orientation includes printed information, group encounters and personal study.

Emphasizing that all funding should "be over and above regular missions and Cooperative Program giving," Myers said the money might come from the volunteer or another individual or group.

At the present, the information storage service for volunteers called Volunteer Involvement in Missions is not being used for Mission Service Corps. It will be used when the number of applicants warrant it, Myers said. He emphasized that unlike other volunteers whose names will be stored until called for, volunteers for Mission Service Corps will have names and information forwarded immediately to either the Home or Foreign Mission Boards or the state Baptist convention in which a person volunteers to serve.

He reported that both he and his son came back changed people. "I feel if others would become involved in this type of mission activity, we would have a different outlook on our missions and missionaries and we would want to give more to help the spread of the gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

This was Hodnett's fourth mission trip and was coordinated through the Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood Department.

Now, "My desire is just to love people and try to teach them the word of God, and to introduce the lost to Him," he continued.

"I want to thank everyone who helped and to apologize to those I've offended, and to invite everyone to my ordination service."

Hurley, a Saint Jo, Texas, native, had spent much of his life working in oil fields. He started at the bottom and worked up, eventually owning an oil lease.

Along the way, he also spent three years in the Marines as a jet mechanic and earned 91 semester hours at Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, Tex.

His father was killed in a traffic accident when Hurley was three. He reports he grew up with a lack of guidance and full of rebellion. "Actually, I was looking for Jesus, but wasn't aware of it all those years," he said.

"My wife and I have been attempting ever since then to live our lives for the Lord. He had been having a lot of problems that just disappeared that day," he said.

In 1975 Hurley quit his job with Fort Worth & Denver Railway, sold his oil lease, paid off his debts and enrolled in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

"I had a little GI Bill left and the Lord got us through," he said. Some Christians helped with gifts.

After a year and nine months, he earned the Diploma in Theology.

But the call to a local church did not come quickly. For nearly three months, the Hurleys waited for a church position to become available.

Never daunted, Ken Hurley knew God had a distinct purpose in mind. So he patiently waited. Finally, a small mission church in New Holland, Pennsylvania, called Hurley.

The church is so small it is unable to fully support Hurley's ministry. Fortunately the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board will subsidize his salary.

And now there are the challenges of a struggling young church. But Hurley is confident those problems can be worked out, just as all the others have.

Oppose Absolutist Position

Christian Ethicists Sign Abortion Concerns Paper

WASHINGTON (BP) — Six Southern Baptist experts in Christian ethics joined 210 other ethicists throughout the nation in "a call to concern" released here opposing "the absolutist position that it is always wrong to terminate a pregnancy at any time after conception."

Southern Baptists among the 216 signers are Foy Valentine of Nashville, executive secretary of the denomination's Christian Life Commission, and five teachers of Christian ethics — Bob E. Adams, Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.; Thomas A. Bland, Southeastern Baptist Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.; Daniel B. McGee, Baylor University, Waco, Tex.; and Paul D. Simmons and Glenn H. Stassen, both of Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

The "call to concern" comes at a time when massive efforts are underway to amend the U. S. Constitution to prohibit all abortions and when Congress is struggling over public funding of abortions for poor women.

If criticized the absolutist position, especially as verbalized by Roman Catholic bishops, which views any termination of pregnancy as "murder or manslaughter" and ignores the diversity of opinion among religious people.

The statement also supports the 1973 Supreme Court decision, which removed abortion from the criminal law codes, and supports Medicaid funding for poor women seeking abortion, but it does not take an abortion on demand stance.

"Abortion is a serious and sometimes tragic procedure for dealing with fetal life," the statement said. "It raises important ethical issues and

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The Missions Task

Can The Church Wait?

By John Alexander, Director Stewardship Department

Sometimes churches say things to the members through their actions that can promote serious problems. A case in point: The church runs a little in the red for the month so what does it do? It takes its commitment to missions and pays current bills. It fails to realize that our missionaries and mission boards also have obligations. It forces them to wait, in some cases go begging, for that congregation's part of a responsible missions program.

Without making an announcement from the pulpit, or printing a statement to that effect in the bulletin, the church by its actions is saying to the membership: "The next time you run a little short in your family budget, forget about your obligation to the church. Use the Lord's money to pay your current bills. The church can wait! This matter really isn't important!"

Perhaps some church leaders have not really thought about what they were saying through their actions, but does the church want to say to its members: "When there is a budget squeeze at home, just forget about the church and its obligations?"

How can a church or its leaders justify "fussing" at church members who follow the church example and are unfaithful in primary obligations when they themselves are setting the example for such unfaithfulness?

Most informed church members expect the church to keep faith with them and send monies they have given as the membership voted they should be sent. They want to be a regular part of Christ's world mission program. They are encouraged to keep faith with their church as their church, by its example, keeps faith with them by keeping missions a major priority item.

In 82 countries across this world are missionaries who have put their lives on the line because they trusted Southern Baptists and their churches to keep faith by providing regular support for them and their families. There are 2500 missionaries in the homeland who work in very difficult fields who have waged their lives that Southern Baptists, like the God they worship, are "... faithful and true," and they need our faithful and regular support.

With the greatest era of meaningful service to the denomination just ahead of it, the Radio and Television Commission needs and must have our faithful support to continue and expand its service.

Our six seminaries, the largest and finest in the world, depend on us to finance their future. Many professors are serving on faculties at less than they could earn in business, or in a prominent pastorate, to continue teaching those whom God has called.

A vital part of world missions is maintaining and strengthening the home base, the work in the state: education, child care, and the various state programs.

A well-balanced, comprehensive, and consistent effort is being made through our cooperative efforts. Our fellow-workers around the world deserve our faithful and regular support through our prayers and our provisions! Think about it!

Baptist-Catholic

Priest Lists Common Morality Between Groups

MEMPHIS (RNS) — No two Churches are closer together on matters of personal morality than Southern Baptists and Roman Catholics in the opinion of a Catholic priest who is an ecumenical field representative for the U.S. hierarchy.

Here in Tennessee to promote ecumenical contacts, Joseph A. O'Donnell says that "from the standpoint of overall theological structures, the Roman Catholics and Southern Baptists are at opposite poles."

But, the Glenmary priest continued, "We are especially close in the matter of our separate personal moral theologies. In this area, there are not two denominations closer together."

In that area, O'Donnell of Beaver Dam, Ky., suggested Catholics and Southern Baptists could begin to make some contacts that could eventually — in the distant future — result in theological dialogues.

"At present, I would like to see some sort of informal dialogue begun between the two churches on a one-church-to-one-church basis or a one-group-to-one-group basis," he explained, adding:

"We both could start by seeking out the areas in which Catholics and Southern Baptists could work well together — such things as social services of an emergency nature. This would

include joint efforts to relieve natural disaster suffering."

O'Donnell also suggested that Catholics and Southern Baptists could make efforts at setting up small joint prayer groups and "then let the Holy Spirit take it from there."

O'Donnell pointed to the missionary enthusiasm of Southern Baptists in noting that "the only reason they actually structured themselves together instead of remaining individual churches is to be better able to bring the Gospel to the people in the missions."

"And this they do with a fervor and enthusiasm that is remarkable to watch and which could put missionaries of other denominations — including Catholics — to shame and embarrass them," he pointed out.

O'Donnell said Catholics generally know very little about Southern Baptists and they about Catholics.

"So each side looks on the other in the light of common stereo-types and these are not the real picture to be had of either Catholics or Southern Baptists," he said.

"That is why I feel the time is now to begin to read about the other person's religion and try to understand what makes the other guy tick and then start to sit down together and talk and eat and pray together."

The 1973 Supreme Court decision referred to in the statement overturned a Texas law which denied the right to abortion except to save the mother's life. The court ruled that such a law violates the due process clause of the 14th Amendment, which protects "the right to privacy, including a woman's qualified right to terminate her pregnancy."

The court ruled that the decision to terminate pregnancy during the first three months is left to the woman and her physician. In the second three months, the state may regulate abortion in the interest of the mother's health. In the last three months of pregnancy, the state may regulate or even prohibit abortion because the fetus has the ability to remain alive apart from the mother's body.

The statement calls on leaders of religious groups which support abortion rights to speak publicly "in response to the dangerously increasing influence of the absolutist position."

The 216 leading American ethicists represent a cross-section of religious and ethical thought on the part of those who support the civil rights of women to exercise their own choice in the matter of abortion. They believe that government should not regulate the religious beliefs and practices of people who do not accept the "absolutist position" on abortion.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

At State Convention . . .

Bold Mission Thrust Begins

The era of Bold Mission Thrust is beginning to get under way all across the nation as a Southern Baptist Convention emphasis, and the Mississippi Baptist Convention will meet this month with the theme — "Mission: Reaching Out with all Boldness."

The meeting dates are Nov. 15 to 17 at First Baptist Church, Jackson.

Bold Mission Thrust began as the result of a study committee appointed during the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas in 1974. Owen Cooper of Yazoo City was the president. The committee was to study the missions efforts of the convention and, if it had suggestions, report them to the convention two years later in Norfolk. This committee, with Warren Hultgren as its chairman, made its report; and it was established as a Missions Challenge for the convention. The two mission boards were asked to develop strategies for carrying out the challenge, and they did. Briefly, the Foreign Mission Board determined to make a Christian witness available to every person in the world by the end of this century. The Home Mission Board had a similar goal in that it made plans to provide a Christian witness to every person in the nation by the end of this decade and to make a New Testament fellowship available to all.

These goals have not been altered. A new dimension was added to the missions effort during the Kansas City convention this year when President Carter suggested by video tape a volunteer missions program which is now called the Mission Service Corps. The main thrust of Mission Service Corps is to have 5,000 volunteers available and financed outside of Cooperative

Program funds to go anywhere in the world with a witness.

The 5,000 volunteers are to be available, trained, and at work by 1982. To this 5,000 figure is to be added the additional goal of the Foreign Mission Board to double its missionary force to 5,000 by the end of the century.

Other Missions Challenge goals include a doubling of Cooperative Program giving by 1982 and doubling twice more by the year 2000.

At the September SBC Executive Committee meeting the entire effort was placed under one umbrella which is called Bold Mission Thrust. This does not alter the Home Mission Board's goals, but it borrows that agency's title for the overall emphasis.

Guidelines are developing for Bold Mission Thrust, though there is yet much to be decided. One aspect is apparent already, however, and that is that a great deal of the financing, the work, and the success will come as a result of state convention efforts.

Our convention is meeting this month to launch its Bold Mission emphasis. An exciting program is on the drawing board for the Tuesday evening session, which is usually the time for state missions emphasis. A multi-media presentation will be the highlight of the evening, and during the session plans will be discussed for the simultaneous evangelistic crusade scheduled for April of 1979 in black and in white churches all across Mississippi.

Across the nation there is going to be a need for 5,000 volunteers before 1982 and for the finances to provide for their

opportunities to witness. The goal in Mississippi is 300. This doesn't seem to be a big number, but it means 300 people who will give up to two years or even more of their lives to go somewhere in the nation or overseas to help spread the gospel. Some of them will be called upon to provide their own expenses.

For those who are selected to go and cannot provide their own financing, someone else will have to. There is to be no Cooperative Program funding for this effort. That means another group of volunteers of some number who will provide a substantial amount of money so that there can be this world-wide witness.

Where are the volunteers and the financial donors to come from?

They will be found in the churches of Mississippi — in the big ones and in the small ones, in the cities and in the countryside, among the young and among the old.

It all is going to be kicked off in Mississippi with this year's state convention. It is an exciting thing. Think of the thrill of being a part of such a missionary effort as this is going to be — either as an active participant or as someone who is providing the financing so that others can go. It could revolutionize the missions consciousness of the entire Southern Baptist Convention.

No one who is able should miss his chance to be a part of this effort. And every church that is able should be sure to have its messengers elected so that they may be on hand for the initiation of this fantastic undertaking in missions.

Book Reviews

THE SOUND OF BOLDNESS by L. Morris (Broadman, \$4.95, 117 pp.) The Book of Acts tells about the boldness of Peter, Paul, and other early followers of Jesus, who showed, time after time, that they would rather go to jail than stop talking about Jesus. In this new book, the author shows us we should be as bold as those early believers. He challenges and inspires and spells out preparation and practices we should follow in order to share what is still the best news in the world.

MAGNIFICENT MARRIAGE by Gordon MacDonald (Tyndale House, paper, \$3.95, 182 pp.) The author has drawn on his own marriage, his pastoral encounters, and his insight into the Bible to give a down-to-earth view of what marriage is and can be. He demonstrates that a successful marriage consists of a balance of four essential elements: romance, companionship, service, and sexuality.

PRIORITY PLANNER by Linda Dillow (Thomas Nelson, \$3.95) By a woman who is wife, mother, speaker, and author, this is a book that every busy, creative Christian homemaker should have. It is designed to help you organize your time and schedule your priorities. This attractive book contains spaces for your weekly schedule, daily schedule, daily menus, tear-off shopping lists, space for phone numbers and addresses, and a five-year calendar. Dillow suggests that activities might be scheduled according to these priorities: 1. the Lord; 2. husband; 3. children; 4. home; 5. yourself; and 6. outside the home.

MOM, MY TUMMY'S NERVOUS by Gayle Roper (Baker, \$2.95, 94 pp.) Gayle Roper shares in a warm and inviting way the tears and laughter of her own family circle. Mothers in particular will be delighted by this refreshing — and often funny — book.

TEENAGE RUNAWAY by John Benton (Fleming, 119 pp., \$1.50) The heart-breaking true story of Becky, 16, that contains a powerful, positive message for teenagers and their parents.

GET ON WITH LIVING by Simon Schrock (Fleming, 96 pp., \$1.25) This book shows how to live one's faith joyfully and abundantly, as true Christian disciples in these times of stress and materialism.

REBUILDING OF PSYCHOLOGY by Gary Collins (Tyndale, 202 pp., cloth \$6.95, paper \$4.95) This book makes a bold proposal for rebuilding psychology on the theistic premise that "God exists and is the source of all truth." Dr. Collins shows that the religious dimension has never actually been excluded from psychology — just largely avoided by scientific psychologists. He challenges all those teaching and practicing psychology to recognize and acknowledge a theistic foundation.

The Healing Gift of the Holy Spirit by Agnes Sanford (A. J. Holman Co., 182 pp., \$1.75).

Agnes Sanford was cured of acute depression by the healing power of prayer. In this book she passes on the simple, practical ways of self-help that she discovered. This is a practicable and inspiring guide for anyone who has a desire to make the most of his spiritual capacity through prayer and the Holy Spirit.



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Long Live The Library!

When I got a toothache Grandma Allen would start looking for the oil of cloves. If that failed, then Daddy would say, "I'll take you to Camp Hill to the dentist."

We would climb the flight of unpainted steps on the outside, at the end of the building. Then Mama and Daddy and Betty would sit in the waiting room with the stacks of *Saturday Evening Posts* while I climbed into that dreadful green chair.

With his sandy hair and ruddy cheeks, Dr. Garlington could have come from the brush of Norman Rockwell. While he readied his instruments of torture, I stared out the window at the depot where the trains stopped on their way to Birmingham. "Open wide," he would say with an encouraging smile, and then begin to drill, omitting the anesthetic. I would squeeze my eyes shut and reach for the chair arms.

Dr. Garlington offered no suckers or balloons for such bravery. But reward enough for me was waiting across the hall in the town "library."

My tooth filled and my pain past, I would tiptoe in and gaze with awe at a whole roomful of books. Finally the librarian would have to help me choose just one from all those rows of enticement.

I have always liked libraries, with their faint odor of aging paper, their invitation to sit down and be quiet, their posters that promise visits to new worlds through reading. My week is not complete without a visit to the Jackson Public Library next door to the Baptist Building. Books — all to be used, free.

At Judson College I worked in the Carnegie Library, where the librarian, red-haired Eugenia Collins, wanted quality output from her staffers and said "Shhh" if we talked above a whisper.

At Southwestern Seminary I worked in the library. Often Charles Johnson would ask me to file periodicals in the basement under the Rotunda. I enjoyed stopping to chat with May Ying, who was mending books.

Nowadays church libraries lend more than books. They supply tapes and records and filmstrips and other

media services.

I think it was 1938 when County Line Church decided to begin a library. They didn't have a place for one, but they didn't let that bother them. Teen-age boys at Ridge Grove School built a small cabinet to hold the books that were contributed by the church members.

The church then had two Sunday School rooms — one on each side of the baptistry. The other classes met in the four corners of the auditorium, behind folding screens. The book cabinet was placed on the steps leading to the baptistry. When a baptismal service was held, the library was moved to a bench.

There was no librarian. Everyone checked out his own book. On his honor he returned it in good condition within a reasonable length of time.

The church had no running water in those days. Charlie Mobley would bring a glass jug filled with fresh water every Sunday. He would leave it and some paper cups on a low stool beside the library. People waiting in line for water would look at books.

The collection was not extensive, but there were a few books on Christian stewardship; several on missions, like *Ann of Ava*; the sentimental *Ten Nights in a Barroom*; a book on Baptist beliefs; a book on kindness to animals, "who are dumb and cannot speak for themselves."

Looking back, I can see that that little church library contributed to the growth of my Christian life, fed the flames of my interest in missions, and gave me many hours of reading pleasure.

Long live the church library!

"He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds" (Psalms 147:3). God, the great healer, will mend our broken hearts, bind up our wounded spirit, if we place our lives in His loving care. As a loving Father, He will comfort us and make our hearts whole again, replace our broken spirit with new interest and the joy of living.

—Lena Scott Price

At The Seminaries . . .

Sunday School Board Chair

For many years the Sunday School Board has been applauded for returning sizeable portions of its profits to the work of Southern Baptists in various areas.

Departments in state organizations which relate to Sunday School Board programs are given funds with which to help promote the work, and it is very helpful indeed. It frees other funds to be used in missions causes across the nation and around the world.

The Sunday School Board has come up with something new, however. It has made arrangements with the six seminaries to finance a professorship for the purpose of keeping students and faculty members informed about facilities, programs, and services of the board. The seminary will elect the professor and the board will reimburse the seminary a sum equal to the amount of his salary and benefits on a scale equal to other professors.

This may have its place, but it seems a little strange. It could be called the Sunday School Board Chair of the Sunday School Board.

Surely it is good for seminary students to have such information. The writer would have welcomed such a course as a seminary student in the early 50s and likely would have opted for such a course rather than trying to ascertain how one goes about estab-

lishing and conducting a Boys' Club.

The Sunday School Board is a highly important factor in Southern Baptist life; and the earlier one can come to understand its ministry, the earlier and more easily he can use such a ministry to enhance his own work.

But for such a professor to be paid by the Sunday School Board seems to be just a little off track. Granted, the Sunday School Board could never have persuaded all six of the seminaries to provide such courses unless the board had provided the means for financing them. And granted, the board is not paying the professor directly; but it is footing the bill. To date only South-eastern has employed such a professor.

Surely the Home Mission Board has taken note of this situation and can see how it could profit from establishing a similar provision. The Foreign Mission Board also should be interested.

The Radio and Television Commission would have a wealth of information to impart that students would be interested in, and surely everyone would want to know how he could benefit from Annuity Board ministries.

Don't neglect the Brotherhood Commission and the Woman's Missionary Union, and then there's the Christian Life Commission with its highly important considerations.

All of this is exaggerated, of course, and would be ridiculous. But where should the line be drawn? All of these fields are important and should just as well be discussed in seminary classes.

And surely just a discussion of Sunday School Board work will not keep a professor and his classes busy full-time. The Sunday School Board, however, is the only institution with enough money to provide such a service. Also, the seminaries would not want 10 or 11 professors around who were paid by someone else.

Perhaps there is some way the Sunday School Board could get the funds into the proper stream without its being a direct subsidy and let one professor at each seminary hired by the seminary take care of the instruction needed for all of the Southern Baptist-related institutions and agencies.

This would be a welcomed and highly appreciated service that would add a great deal of knowledge to a young minister's storehouse. Such information is being imparted in religious education classes of the four Mississippi Baptist colleges, and it may be in other states as well. The program is coordinated through the office of the Department of Cooperative Missions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. It is highly regarded and highly successful.

On The Moral Scene

SPEED LIMIT SURVEY — A recent survey conducted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)

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Anne McWilliams, Editorial Associate
William H. Sellers, Bus. Manager

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indicates that the 55 miles per hour speed limit is apparently diminishing serious accidents and reducing gasoline consumption. According to the survey, traffic fatalities declined from 55,839 in 1973 to 46,820 in 1976, and disabling injuries dropped from 2 million to 1.8 million in the same 3-year period. The mileage death rate also shows a decrease from 3.5 deaths per 100 million miles traveled in 1975 to 3.3 deaths in 1976, even though the amount of miles traveled increased by 5 percent. In this country where 25 percent of the energy consumed is for transportation, the figures for gasoline economy furnish evidence that fuel savings realized by driving 55 miles per hour as compared to 70 miles per hour range from 17.1 to 39.8 percent, depending on the type of vehicle. It should be noted that enforcement of the new speed limit has not been lax. Speeding arrests in 1973 stood at 4 million, while the 1976 total nearly doubled to slightly under 8 million. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, September, 1977)

GET MAD — According to a recent Ralph Nader study, consumers are reluctant to complain even if they know

they're being ripped off. The report estimates that consumers are dissatisfied with one-fourth of all goods manufactured today but complain about only a third of those products. Consumers should speak up when they're mad, says Nader. Few people realize that businesses offer satisfactory solutions for more than half of the complaints they receive. (Everybody's Money, Spring 1977)

A GADGET THAT COULD SELL FOR \$10 — would save between 400,000 and 1 million barrels of oil every day. This is a damper in the flame which closes when the furnace is not running. In Germany it is standard equipment, and the savings run from 16% to 30%. You can't buy one in this country, although one was patented here 11 years ago. Source: Senate Anti-Trust Subcommittee. (The Washington Spectator, 4-15-77)

LIFE SENTENCE — First reported incidence of a life sentence for drunken driving has been reported in Montgomery, Alabama, where a trial jury decided it was first-degree murder when an intoxicated salesman crashed his car into another, killing the driver. (Monday Morning Report, 7-18-77)

'Accredited' Education

What Are You Looking For?

By Duke K. McCall
President
Southern Baptist
Theological Seminary

One well-known college claims to be accredited by God. Now God's guidance and blessing is important for every human institution, but it is blasphemy to claim that God thinks our thoughts after us.

Alas, even good institutions are the result of finite, sinful human beings. They all fall short of the glory of God.

But the strongest institutions have gathered together to set up human standards to enable people to distinguish between the good, the mediocre, and the bad. The result is such accrediting agencies as the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, the National Association of Schools of Music. Southern Seminary is an accredited member of each of these.

Membership in these accrediting bodies tells other schools and the churches that graduates have had a high quality educational experience. Thus, Southern Seminary graduates can transfer to other quality educational institutions or they can secure employment in positions that require

accredited degrees. Accreditation says nothing positively or negatively about Christian orthodoxy or God's favor.

So whether you, as an individual, are interested in accredited theological education depends on what you are looking for. If you want a doctor's degree as a label and do not care about the quality of learning, there are a number of places doctor's degrees may be secured at relatively little effort and modest expense.

Frankly I think the concern of churches for doctor's degrees approaches scandal, and the clergy traffic in counterfeit doctor's degrees without reference to academic quality is scandalous.

I would almost suggest that the Southern Baptist Convention resolve that upon approval by an ordination council the Doctor of Bible degree be awarded every minister (Maybe he ought to be required to read the Bible through and send \$100 to the Cooperative Program before being included in the Convention Annual as "John Doe, D.B.,").

Having settled that issue, then pulpits committees could make serious inquiry about the quality of the minister's educational preparation as well as his character and commitment to biblical theology and the Lordship of Christ.

At the moment, a significant number of bright young men and women are not going to accredited Southern Baptist colleges and seminaries but to local Bible schools, colleges, and seminaries. There they will learn something and, indeed, God may accredit their ministry with spiritual power.

Alas, before their life is over, hundreds of them will try to transfer or continue their education in accredited schools. Sometimes they will receive as much as half credit, and sometimes none. The result will be a low ceiling on opportunities of Christian service for many fine young men and women. I can only pray for them that they may, in fact, be fully aware of what they are doing.

In the meantime, Southern Seminary will continue to offer the highest quality of accredited theological education. We will not jeopardize our accreditation by offering double credit for work already used on a bachelor's degree.

Our intention is to provide a quality of academic experience in a context of religious commitment that will produce Baptist ministers who are called of God and will be used by the Holy Spirit.

Reprinted from the July-August issue of THE TIE, official publication of Southern Seminary.

Grain Silos Are Part Of Food Resource Work

TAMALE, Ghana (BP) — Southern Baptist missionaries in the northern area of Ghana are building silos for better grain storage in an effort to help the farmers of Ghana preserve food resources.

Farm families depend on stored grain for food throughout the dry season following each harvest and throughout the rainy season before the new harvest. As rains come to prepare the ground for planting a new crop, grain stored in traditional silos often becomes mildewed. Rodents and insects also cause considerable losses.

Southern Baptist missionaries are teaching the people to build silos which have proper ventilation to prevent mildew and which cannot be penetrated by rodents. A special chemical is also used in silos to limit infestation by insects.

These better silos can cut to almost nothing the present loss of 30 to 50 percent of the total stored, according to John R. Cheyne. Cheyne, Southern Baptist missionary to East Africa on assignment with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as associate consultant on hunger and disaster response, recently toured several agricultural and food resource projects in Africa reporting on the progress of existing programs and the establishment of new ones.

Ghana farmers can build the new silos for about \$50 each. Thus a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board appropriation of \$2,500 for silos will build 50 of them.

"Translated into pounds of grain this means cutting the loss by about 2,400 pounds in each silo," Cheyne said. "This is a total of about 120,000 pounds of grain saved yearly. If we were to purchase the grain to give out when people become hungry, \$2,500 would only buy about 40,000 pounds."

Jess B. Thompson Jr., Southern Baptist Missionary agriculturalist working with the silo project, recommended that in addition to the silos the missionaries might supervise the digging of wells at each site and introduce superior seeds and fertilizer to a general improvement program.



A Southern Baptist missionary agriculturalist in Ghana is planning a silo-building project to help preserve the grain resources of that nation. Each silo, which can be built for about \$50, can save up to 2,400 pounds of grain yearly from mildew, rodents and insects. Jess B. Thompson Jr. (on ladder), who heads the project, and Ray W. Eitelman, agricultural missionary from Upper Volta, inspect a completed silo. (BP photo by John R. Cheyne)

eral improvement program.

Combining the wells, seed, fertilizer and better grain storage, Thompson hopes to help bring about long-term improvements in food production and the food resources of the Ghana farmers.

With changing weather patterns and increasing population it is especially important that land and grain resources be used to their optimum, Cheyne stated.

In other parts of Ghana, Baptists are involved in special food resource projects for school children. These projects include distribution of a high protein food mixture of wheat flour, sorghum and powdered milk.

"Each child is given a large bowl full," Cheyne said. "It is intended to be taken home, mixed with water and

cooked into a porridge, but many of the children eat the dry mixture on the way home."

Grain is also being transported from Takoradi, where it is available through government sources, to Nalerigu, where it is needed. Southern Baptist missionaries are using special appropriations to pay for the transportation.

All of these projects combined are a part of the effort to help Ghana put its natural resources to their best possible use. "Food resources are becoming a growing concern in a growing world," Cheyne said.

W. Eugene Grubbs, hunger relief and disaster response coordinator, is scheduled for a visit this fall to Ghana and other nations in West Africa to assist in planning to meet immediate needs caused by prolonged drought.

At Mississippi College

Religion Division Plays Major Role In Campus Life

By James Ferraglia

At the heart of every Christian institution of higher learning there lies a basic philosophy that shapes the education, training and activities of the students who attend. At Mississippi College this philosophy is manifested in the many religious activities which are an integral part of campus life.

The Division of Religion at Mississippi College, under the leadership of William W. Stevens, plays a major role in this development of Christian ideals and training on campus.

The division is divided into three departments: Bible, Philosophy, and Religious Education. Within this framework students can major in one of five areas including Bible, Bible/Philosophy, Bible/Religious Education, Religious Education, Church Activities or Religion.

The six members of the teaching faculty in the Division of Religion have combined teaching experiences of over 65 years at Mississippi College and all hold the earned doctorate. They have attended four of the six Southern Baptist seminaries including Southwestern, Southern, Midwestern, and New Orleans, and three are graduates of Mississippi College.

The faculty members include William W. Stevens, Chairman and professor of Bible and Greek; Joe M. Cooper, professor and head of the department of philosophy; Phillips R. McCarty, professor and head of the department of religious education; Robert M. Shurden, associate professor of Bible; Charles S. Davis, assistant professor of Bible; and J. Phillip Stanberry, assistant professor of religious education.

McCarty, Stanberry and Cooper all have children currently enrolled in the college and Stevens has had three children and his wife graduate from the institution.

The six professors in the division attend three different Baptist churches in the Clinton area and all are involved in the spiritual development of the community.

Activities of the division through May of this year included 15 academic or professional meetings, 13 denomi-

national meetings, nine study courses, 15 lecture courses, 194 sermons preached, and 19 public addresses other than sermons.

Faculty members in the division have also been active as counselors, interim pastors, interim ministers of education, Bible teachers, conference speakers and local, state and Southern Baptist activities on the denominational level.

The division has also been active on campus in organization sponsorship, freshman counseling, hosting religious lectureships, chapel addresses and workshops.

Closely tied with the Division of Religion, the Baptist Student Union (BSU) gives students an opportunity for service in Christian activities.

The religious activities of the BSU are directed by forty outstanding students under the leadership of Bradley Pope, Director of Religious Activities.

BSU students minister in nine institutions in the Clinton-Jackson areas including five nursing homes, the Crippled Children's Hospital, the Methodist Rehabilitation Center, the juvenile court, and the Children's Village. Over 300 people a week are ministered to by 75 to 100 students involved in BSU functions.

Each year the BSU initiates action teams to minister in churches throughout the state. Last years over 70 action teams involving over 250 students held revivals in Baptist churches in Mississippi.

Spiritual Enrichment Week, one of the BSU highlights of each year, brings outstanding Christian speakers to campus to hear messages and spend personal time with the students.

Other activities during the school year include performances by the BSU singing group, Harvest; inspirational meetings, performances by the Fine Arts team, puppet ministries in local churches, and many off-campus discussion and share groups.

The BSU is also active during the summer, offering students many opportunities to minister in churches throughout the state.

This year, 13 students were appointed summer missionaries through the Home Mission Board program and

over 20 students served as youth directors in Baptist churches throughout the state.

Another area of religious involvement for students on the Mississippi College campus can be found in religious music.

Under the direction of Jack Lyall, professor of music and Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, students are trained through involvement in several performing groups and private instruction.

Lyall, himself a minister of music in a local Baptist church, sets the pace with over 40 years of experience in religious music.

Faculty members are involved in community activities which include part-time ministers of music, interim ministers of music and organists.

Student choirs and ensembles, often accompanied by instrumental ensembles, perform at chapel exercises and at local churches. This year the Mississippi College Concert Choir, under the direction of Lyall, will be the only college choir represented at the Seventeenth Annual Church Music Institute at Southern Seminary.

The Division is also active in bringing outstanding choirs to the campus such as the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Men's Chorus and Consort Singers who presented a program in February of this year.

Nature, time, and patience are the three greatest physicians.

A nuisance is a man you like better the more you see him less.

It is ours to obey God's commands, not to direct His counsels.

The way of the transgressor is hard — especially on other people.

Absence of accidents depends on the presence of mind.

"The bread that you store up belongs to the hungry; the cloak that lies in your chest belongs to the naked; and the gold that you have hidden in the ground belongs to the poor." — St. Basil.

POWERLINE

Strangers Not Wanted!

Moving to a new location, like any change, requires adjustment in perspective.

I have just moved from a small town where I spent most of my life to a larger city. I feel angry, confused, and lonely. I miss my friends very much and in this town, people don't accept strangers like me. What can I do?

Moving to a new home after so many years can be an unsettling experience, but it can also be a great adventure. It depends on the attitude of the individual. You can look at this as a terrible blow from fate or you can see it as an opportunity for growing, learning, and discovering more about yourself, your world, and the people in it. If you take a dim view of life in general, naturally you are going to be unhappy no matter where you are. If you don't like yourself and you don't think well of your abilities, naturally you

are going to feel uncomfortable in any circumstances or any circle of friends.

If you like yourself, if you appreciate your own abilities, if you enjoy making friends and you give it an honest try, life will be meaningful and rich. The happiness really begins within your own head, not your location.

Why not join some clubs, sign up for sports in school, get involved in church activities? Go where the people are and see if you don't start making more friends. Time will add strength to those new relationships.

A weekly radio program for youth broadcast nationwide by So. Baptist Radio-TV Commission. For information write POWERLINE, Fort Worth, Texas 76116. Dr. J. P. Allen, Director, Audience Response

North American Baptists Elevate "Working Fellowship"

ARLINGTON, Va. (BP) — "Understanding within the Baptist family in North America took a giant step forward" at the 13th annual meeting of the North American Baptist Fellowship (NABF) here.

That evaluation came from Carl W. Tiller, the NABF secretary and an associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA), who has been closely aligned with NABF activities throughout its history.

The NABF, a voluntary association of nine Baptist conventions and conferences in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, operates as a BWA committee.

Robert S. Denny, BWA general secretary, said the meetings evidenced "the fruition of a new sense of working fellowship" among Baptists of the North American continent.

A two-year effort at obtaining an in-depth acquaintance with the NABF affiliates was successfully concluded as the general committee, with the guidance of Baptist history professor, C. C. Goen, probed the beliefs and practices of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., the National Baptist Convention of Mexico, the North American Baptist Conference, and the General Association of General Baptists. A similar exploration of four other Baptist bodies took place at the 1976 meetings.

Workshops permitted leaders in various functional areas of church work to get better acquainted with each other

and with each convention's work. The discussion focus this year fell on Christian ethics, communications, evangelism and education, missions administration, and stewardship development. The principal executives (general secretaries and executive secretaries) of the member bodies also met together.

Jack O'Neal of Fresno, Calif., explained cooperative efforts of California Baptists under the umbrella of the Baptist Joint Committee of California. Tiller called the California organization a model for Baptist fellowship at the state level.

Acting on the strength of renewed fellowship and trust engendered at the meetings, the General Committee of NABF voted to respond favorably to a proposal that theological conversations be undertaken with other denominational families of Christendom, starting with the Lutherans. The objective is to improve mutual understanding. The specific plan for Lutheran-Baptist conversations now goes to the Lutheran Council in the USA for ratification.

Eleanore Schnurr, BWA volunteer representative in New York for liaison with the United Nations, told of her work and of the recognition accorded by the U. N. to BWA statements on such issues as human rights and religious tolerance.

Ernest K. Bee Jr., a Seventh Day Baptist minister, was re-elected chairman of NABF, and Mrs. Dolores

Duck, women's executive for General Baptists, was re-elected vice chairman. The NABF will hold its next general committee meeting October 5-6, 1978, in Toronto, Canada.

Three Texas Editors Ask ABC To Scrub "Soap"

DALLAS (BP) — The editors of three Texas religious newsweeklies temporarily laid aside their theological differences in Dallas this week to jointly urge a speedy death for "Soap," ABC Television's new sex-oriented comedy series.

Presnell H. Wood of the Baptist Standard, Spurgeon M. Dunnam, III of The Texas Methodist and Steve Landregan of The Texas Catholic, issued a statement predicting other similar "spin-offs" and "Soap imitations" should the show prove to be a success.

They asked their subscribers — more than 800,000 weekly in combined circulation — to refuse to watch such programs, to write letters to sponsors and boycott their products and to write letters of protest to local television stations.

Prompt action is imperative, they said, to curb "an obvious trend toward... programs which exploit sexual themes."

"Soap" has become more than a

It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy what we have that makes us happy.

The Star Spangled Banner is the only piece of music the public will stand for all the time.

Some preachers are so sad of voice and countenance that they should apply for membership in the embalmer's union.

Confess your sins, not your neighbor's.

Idleness is the nest in which mischief lays its eggs.

Mississippi College To Add Arts And Science Dean

CLINTON — In recent years the academic structure of Mississippi College has changed significantly. Schools of nursing, law, business and public administration, and education have been established. The college is now preparing to complete its reorganization by restructuring the divisions of fine arts, humanities, religion, social studies, and science and mathematics.

In September, the faculty from these divisions elected four members to a committee. Faculty members elected were Joe Cooper (philosophy), Prentiss Cox (biology), Walter Howell (history), and Patricia Walston (music). Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, appointed Paul Ohme (mathematics) to serve as chairman on this committee.

This committee has submitted to Nobles a proposal that the board of trustees establish a college of arts and sciences and a school of music.

Nobles appointed Bettye Coward (home economics), Martin Davis (accounting), and Tom Goldman (law) to

join with the committee in searching both on and off campus for an individual to become dean of the proposed college of arts and sciences. The committee has been instructed to submit at least three names to Nobles for final screening.

The committee is searching for an individual with a strong commitment to the basic philosophy of Mississippi College and with suitable academic credentials.

An applicant should have a terminal degree in one of the areas to be incorporated into the college of arts and sciences or a terminal degree with considerable experience in one of these areas.

The committee is at work, so all nominations should be submitted as early as possible. To obtain application details or to submit a name for consideration, contact: Paul Ohme, chairman, Search Committee for the College of Arts & Sciences Dean, Box 4025, Mississippi College, Clinton, Mississippi 39058; 601-924-5131, Ext. 217.



Commission Road Is Constituted

Commission Road Mission, Long Beach, was organized Sept. 11 into Commission Road Church. Bay Vista Baptist Church, Biloxi had been the sponsoring church and Gulf Coast Association had been title holder to the property.

Buddy Beam, pastor of the new church, stated that the first services were held at the mission in November 1974. On August 6, 1965, the Gulf Coast Association had bought 6 1/2 acres of land north of Commission Road and east of Daugherty Park Subdivision.

Nine years later the Executive Board of the association, meeting at First Church of Pass Christian, voted to request assistance from the Mississippi Baptist Convention. As a result of this request, a mobile chapel was provided by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

J. W. Brister, Gulf Coast director of mission, was asked to serve as interim pastor. On May 18, 1975, Buddy Beam became pastor.

In June, 1977, three and one-half more acres of land were cleared and a building plan decided upon. The mission voted to buy 4 1/2 acres of additional property.

A first unit is now under construction. This will serve as a combination auditorium and educational space. Church bonds are being sold to cover the cost.

NAMES IN THE NEWS



First Church, Brooklyn, has elected two new deacons — Carl Shepherd and Bobby Spiers. The Brooklyn church has ordained Shepherd. Spiers had been ordained by another church earlier. Left to right, above are Shepherd and his wife: Pastor Kenneth Shoemaker, and Spiers with his wife.



A "Baptist Hour" poster featuring Mississippi pastor Frank Pollard of First Church, Jackson, was spotted by five visitors from Vicksburg during a recent visit to the Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth, Tex. Mississippians were (from left) R. D. Caldwell, Mrs. Charles Penley, Essie Gibson, Janice Cooksey and Ruby Halford. Gibson is from Bowmar Avenue Church, Vicksburg. The rest are from First Church. — Radio-TV Commission photo

Jimmy and Sarah Young announce the arrival of their first child, Rebekah Elizabeth, on October 24 at Leake Memorial Hospital, Carthage. The mother is the former Sarah Willey of Pelahatchie. The father is pastor of New Hope Church, Carthage.

Tommy Baddley on Oct. 16 celebrated his fifth anniversary as pastor of First Church, Brandon.

Ryan Samuel Kelly was born on Sept. 24, 1977, to Ralph Kelly, pastor of Green's Creek Church, Petal, and Mrs. Kelly.

Blue Mountain College has named Cecil C. Byrd, II, former Director of Veterans Affairs at the University of Alabama, as the school's new Director of Admissions, according to an announcement made by BMC President E. Harold Fisher. Byrd, 30, is a native of Portsmouth, Virginia and received both his B.S. and M.A. degrees in Psychology from Alabama. He has completed course requirements for his PhD degree in Educational Psychology.



Eric Madison, right, was ordained to the gospel ministry September 25 at Riverside Church, Clarksdale. He has accepted the pastorate of Farrell Church in Coahoma County. Louis Barner, left, pastor of Riverside Church delivered the charge to the candidate and to the church. Danny Prater, associational missionary, Riverside Association, preached the ordination sermon.

Elmo McLaurin has begun his seventh year as minister of education at Highland, Meridian. He served previously in Laurel and Beaumont, Tex. The native Mississippian is a graduate of William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary. He is married to the former Sandra Pryor of Laurel. They are the parents of four children. McLaurin is serving as Sunday School director for Lauderdale Association and is a special worker with the Mississippi State Sunday School department. Also he is currently secretary-treasurer for the Mississippi Chapter of the New Orleans Seminary Alumni Association. Jackie Hamilton is pastor at Highland.

Helen and Clayton Bond, missionaries to Togo, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: BP 1353, Lome, Togo). Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1958, he was pastor of South Columbia Church, Columbia, Miss.

John Lee Taylor, pastor of First, Grenada, is the author of an article in the November, 1977 issue of Church Administration. The article is entitled "How to Get People To Do Their Jobs."

Baptists And Lutherans Join Hands In Project

CORNELIUS, Ore. (BP) — Southern Baptists and Lutherans have joined hands in this community of about 2,000 to provide a church building at a bargain rate.

Cornelius Baptist Church, a 75-member church organized in 1973, has been meeting in a school building for about four years, but behind the lead-

ership of their pastor, Earl Fort they had decided to build a new church.

Then Emanuel Lutheran Church entered the picture. They were using a 69-year-old building which had to be moved to clear the way for a new church they planned to build on the site.

The Baptists and the Lutherans got together and made a deal. The Southern Baptist church would pay \$500 for the heating system and pay for the moving the structure. It was a bargain both ways. Cornelius Baptists got a building at a much cheaper price than constructing it from scratch. The Lutherans were saved the cost of tearing it down.

"This is really encouraging," said Fort. "The fellowship of the people in the church and the community here is better than any of the places I pastored in Texas. We figured it would cost \$100,000 for a new building, one that would have seated 150. This seats 100, but we're going to get into it for less than \$50,000."

"We knew they were interested in a building and there was a feeling here that we wanted to continue the use of the old church because of its historic value," adds William Bash, the Lutheran pastor.

Apparently the move made an impact on the community.

As the 75-ton church building was being towed down the street to its new location, a bystander suggested that Fort, a rangy Texan, should ride ahead on a horse crying, "The Baptists are coming!"

Oklahoma Baptists Ban Sex Operations, Study Hospitals

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — With only two dissenting votes, the board of directors of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma decided to ban "gender dysphoria procedures" (sex change operations) at Baptist Medical Center here.

At the same meeting the board voted to authorize its committee on hospitals and retirement centers to study the feasibility of the state convention divesting itself of ownership and operation of its four hospitals at Enid, Grove, Miami and Oklahoma City.

The vote on sex change operations followed an earlier request by Joe L. Ingram, the state convention's executive director-treasurer, that a moratorium be placed on the operation until a decision could be made. About three months earlier, it had become known that more than 50 sex operations had been performed by a six-member team of physicians at the hospital.

Ingram read to directors from the policies and procedures manual for convention-owned hospitals and said, "It seems inconsistent with the stated purpose of the hospitals to allow such operations within the walls of a Baptist hospital." He said the board's action would not prevent doctors from performing the operations at other Ok-

lahoma medical centers.

As for the study on hospital divestiture, which drew three dissenting votes, Ingram said: "Although the transsexual operation controversy has perhaps focused my attention on the idea of divestiture, for several years I have become increasingly convinced that the time was fast approaching when convention ownership and operation of hospitals would become unwise. I believe that time has arrived."

He cited several supporting factors, including increasing state and federal government control, increasing domination by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission which seeks to prevent employers from considering religious factors, burdens and liabilities to the convention without effective controls, and precedent for divestiture set by some other Baptist entities.

A spokesman for the team of surgeons, which had urged the board not to prevent sex change operations, said the board's vote will cause Baptists to be "viewed as bigoted buffoons" and that physicians "will be unable to utilize their skills and the patients suffering from gender dysphoria will be denied help."

The same surgeon had earlier appealed for compassion from the direc-

tors, but he said if the vote went against the operations he and his team would probably look for another hospital where they could continue the surgery.

During the board meeting, one member, Warren Terry, an Oklahoma City pastor, said he did not favor the operations but felt more information should be obtained before they were stopped.

Another pastor, Curtis Nigh of Midwest City, Okla., said that after hearing a presentation from members of the medical team which performs the operations he was convinced that the ethical issue was on the side of the wholeness of life and helping the people who feel trapped in a body with sex organs of the opposite sex.

"When I asked the question, 'What could Christ do?', my decision was that he would cast a vote on the side of wholeness, health, healing and compassion and love for people," Nigh declared.

O. S. Hawkins, a pastor from Ada, Okla., said he had polled his people and that they overwhelmingly opposed the operation. Other reports indicated that many associations of Baptist churches in Oklahoma had passed resolutions in their annual meetings against the operation.

Court Declines Review Of Liquor Laws

WASHINGTON (BP) — In a pair of actions announced here, the U. S. Supreme Court refused to consider overturning an Illinois local option law or reversing the revocation of a California go-go lounge's liquor license.

The Illinois case involved a direct challenge to that state's provision for referendum to decide if liquor may be sold in local communities. The law states specifically that in cities with more than 200,000 population, a local referendum may be held in each voting precinct. In all other municipalities, the entire city or town may vote in referendum to decide if liquor may be sold.

The challenge to the Illinois law was made on grounds that precincts represent a "limited, narrow segment of the community that can be gerrymandered to reflect only a specific point of view."

Two lower tribunals, including the Illinois Supreme Court, had earlier upheld the law.

In the California case, Paul Richter, owner and operator of a San Diego establishment called "The Body Shop," had his liquor license revoked by state officials for offering nude entertainment in violation of a recent state law.

Deadline Extended For Sermon Entries

NASHVILLE — The deadline for entries from Southern Baptist pastors in the second annual Award Winning Sermons project, sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board, has been extended to Dec. 1 to allow for additional manuscripts, according to James C. Barry, pastoral ministries consultant in the board's church administration department.

Outstanding sermons in five categories — evangelism, Christian growth, doctrine, biography and special days — will be selected and later published in volume two of Award Winning Sermons.

Any Southern Baptist preacher may participate, according to Barry. A preacher may submit his own sermon or an individual may recommend a

sermon, with the preacher's permission, which meets the projects requirements. The sermon should be original and it must have been preached by a Southern Baptist pastor before a Southern Baptist congregation. The manuscript should be clearly labeled according to the category in which it is to be considered. Sources of quoted material should be written in the margin of the manuscript.

In addition to the publication of the manuscripts, the preachers of the award winning sermons will be recognized with special plaques at the 1978 Southern Baptist Convention.

Sermon manuscripts should be sent to Award Winning Sermons, Pastoral Section, Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

Southern Seminary Gains An 'Ogbomoshos Campus'

LOUISVILLE (BP) — The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here, which in 1950 became the first educational institution to offer degrees in the nation of Nigeria, will resume that practice in a nearly-revised agreement with the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary at Ogbomoshos.

The relationship, established this summer in a visit to Ogbomoshos by Southern Seminary Provost Roy Lee Honeycutt, restores the degree-granting function of the Louisville seminary.

From 1950 through 1968, Southern Seminary awarded degrees in cooperation with the Nigerian school. In 1968 the degree-granting focus shifted to the Western African seminary.

Re-establishment of the practice by Southern Seminary's board of trustees will allow the Louisville institution to once again grant degrees, diplomas and certificates to graduates of the Nigerian seminary, which will function as an "operationally - separate unit" of Southern.

The action comes as a result of requests from the Nigerian seminary, the Nigerian Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Honeycutt explains.

Graduates of the Nigerian seminary often teach in public schools in that country, but were not being certified as university-trained teachers by the government because of the lack of a government charter for the Baptist seminary. (Nigerian universities are controlled and chartered by the gov-

ernment). As a result, alumni of the seminary received less compensation than university-educated teachers.

"Government officials account the affiliation of the Nigerian seminary and the Louisville seminary as an acceptable avenue of accreditation" because of Southern Seminary's accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Honeycutt said.

Honeycutt said the Nigerian government has recognized the school because of the revision and is able to certify alumni of the seminary as university-level teachers in Nigerian schools.

Evangelism Doctorate Established

LOUISVILLE (BP) — The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here has announced it will become the first Southern Baptist Convention seminary, and perhaps the first accredited seminary in the nation, to offer the doctor of philosophy (Ph. D.) degree in evangelism.

Faith Of A Christian

Autumn is when the very leaves of the trees bloom with promise that God's love will always transcend the seasons, and His Own will come back to Him in Heaven's splendor and Time shall never end.

—Violet Tackett



Smith Leads Northwest BSU

Newly elected leaders of the Baptist Student Union at Northwest Mississippi Junior College are: front row (l. to r.) Beverly Jones, Coffeyville; Sharon Mayfield, vice president; Nesbit; Susan Koels, secretary; Nesbit; Marty Shaw, Coffeyville; back row (l. to r.) Thomas Beard, Holly Springs; Bobby Joe Norwood, Batesville; Floyd Smith, president; Lambert; and Tim Horton, Calhoun City. (Photo by John Motherhead)

Think Snow!

Les Knight, head of the natural science department at Blue Mountain College, makes a point to three BMC students who will be making the school's annual snow skiing trip January 3-8, 1978 to Breckenridge, Colorado. The International Ski College, which is coordinated by Knight, is conducting the trip for college students in the Mid-South area. The trip carries one hour college credit. Blue Mountain students set for the January excursion include (from left) Lee Tanner of Germantown, Gina Floyd of Memphis, and Anna Wright of Jackson.

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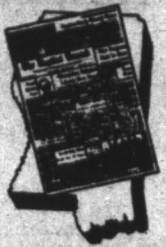
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Just For The Record



GASTON CHURCH, BOONEVILLE, held ground breaking ceremonies on September 25, for a \$96,000 education and activities building. This building will house Youth and Children's departments, a new kitchen, a committee meeting room, a game room, and restrooms. The activities area will be separated from the educational space by an eight inch block wall. A full-size basketball court will be included.

The building will be constructed of blocks and brick wall with a steel frame and metal roof. Much of the work on the foundation is being done by the men of the church.

"We have had one of the best years in the history of the church," says Milton Koon, pastor, "and we are looking forward to an even greater year next year with this added space." The completion date for the building will be in early spring.



NEW HOPE CHURCH OF FOXWORTH recently dedicated a new family life building, consisting of a fellowship hall, kitchen, gymnasium, game room, and dressing rooms. The building committee is (seated) Betty Pittman and Estelle Stringer, (standing) Leslie Pounds, Everett Stringer, Melvin Lowery, Paul Rowell, Brent Slocum, Jimmy Thomas, and Billy R. Williams, pastor.

Missionary 'Scout' Goes To The Field

RICHMOND (BP) — Dwight Honeycutt has stepped into his brother's shoes and is walking into another world. For five years Honeycutt has counseled and directed dozens like himself into career missions.

He has seen, felt and heard the highs and lows of missionary life as one of four associate secretaries for missionary personnel at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board home office here.

On Oct. 11, Honeycutt, along with his wife, Patricia, found himself where those he had counseled once stood. In an appointment service at Richmond's First Baptist Church, the Honeycuts committed their lives as career missionaries in Colombia.

As he bade farewell to the couple as co-workers and in the same breath welcomed them into mission careers, J. Winston Crawley, overseas division

director at the board, said, "You've been serving as a 'scout' and now you're going to be on the playing field."

The Honeycuts were missionary candidates in 1972, searching for the right mission field for them — a place where he could teach church history in a seminary and she could use her music abilities. Nothing opened.

"But as we look back, we realize we were in a holding pattern," Honeycutt said. That pattern kept them in Richmond, allowing Honeycutt to experience the problems of missionaries from the home office viewpoint, from late 1972 until this year when a seminary position at International Baptist Theological Seminary at Cali, Colombia, opened the way. "We always felt that one day we would go. This was just a stop off," he added.

Sterling Floore has completed his 20th consecutive year of perfect attendance with the men's Agogo class at First Church, Macon. On a few occasions the class has "gone to him" because of illness or other problems, but in all those years "Squirt" (as he is called by his friends) has never missed a Sunday School lesson. The Agogo Men's Class, which is taught by Arvard Koon, also had another member, J. E. McDavid, who finished the past year with perfect attendance. Floore says he's shooting for another twenty! William D. Bell is Sunday School director.



Mt. Zion Church, Columbus, is building a new education building to accommodate increasing attendance. The two-story building will contain ten spacious classrooms, and offices for the pastor and minister of music. October 2, the date of the above picture, this open country church had 310 in Sunday School and 184 in Church Training. Pictured, from left, are: J. Ervin Oswalt, chairman of deacons, Bob Reeves, builder, and Ray Hill, pastor.

Straight Bayou Church, Sharkey-Issaquena Association, will celebrate Harvest Day on Sunday, November 6, according to Pastor Harold Jones. Mickey Reynolds, pastor of Deer Creek Church, Rolling Fork, will preach at 11 a.m. Dinner on the grounds will be followed by an afternoon song service. Tommy Kelly of Ita Bena and Bobby Whittington of Clarksdale will be in charge of the music.



A Woman's World Reaches For
Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

Jim, the youngest, came in from a flying lesson the other day saying, "I couldn't do anything right today...." It was a Thursday.

"Don't tell me about it," I speedily said.

Then I acted just like a mother and said, "What did you do wrong?"

He explained how he was going through something called an approach landing stall. He got to a certain point and couldn't remember what to do next. At that point, his flight instructor said, "Repeat out loud what you have done so far."

Jim went through the part of the procedure he had completed and, on reaching the point where he was, the next step came to his mind immediately.

"What are you going to do when you're up there all alone and you have a Thursday?" was again my quite motherly reaction.

"Oh, I'll have my radio."

"Please keep it turned on and in." And I thought about how life has Thursdays all along. Desperation points ever so often. Is there anything I can do times. How will I survive these times. Is there really any use times. So what? times. And I kept thinking several times every day, I've got to write about that.

Then this past Sunday I heard a fantastic preacher, whose name I won't call for fear of being justly accused of prejudice, preach about Peter's desperation at fishing just before Jesus talked with him. And then how Jesus told him what to do, and the results were just what Peter wanted them to be. It wasn't that Peter had not been trying. He just needed the presence of Jesus and the knowledge of Jesus.

I'm glad I don't have to grab an earphone or mike when I have a Thursday. Aren't you?

MC Alumni Invited To Breakfast

The Mississippi College Alumni Association will host a complimentary continental breakfast during the Mississippi Baptist Convention, on Wednesday, November 16, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Auxiliary Building of First Church, Jackson.

Tickets for the breakfast will be available from the local college representative in each area.

For further information contact Bernard Blackwell, Office of Alumni Affairs, Mississippi College.



KEYS TO A NEW PASTOR'S HOME were delivered to Pastor Billy Davis (l) by the deacons of Toxish Church, Pontotoc, on the 140th birthday of the church, Oct. 9. Former pastors present were Paul Harwood who delivered the principal message, Herbert Howell, R. B. Deline, Ulvie Fitts, Joe Hotcomb, and associational missionary Wade Allen.

The pastor's home was dedicated during the morning service. An old-fashioned basket lunch was followed by inspirational program. A reception with the cutting of the birthday cake concluded the day's activities.

The birthday cake was an open Bible measuring 14 x 28 with the inscription, "Happy Birthday, Toxish Baptist Church (1837-1977) — 140 years."

New Hope Church (Leake) will observe Homecoming November 6. Sunday School will be at 10 a.m., followed by the worship service at 11. "Dinner-on-the-ground" will take place at noon. At 1:30, the Dixieland Quartet from Collins will highlight the day's activities with a gospel singing. The pastor is Jimmy Young.

First Church, Coffeeville set Oct. 2 as Pastor Appreciation Day, as it was Donnie L. Stewart's sixth anniversary as pastor there. At the beginning of the Sunday morning worship hour, Aven Jones, chairman of deacons, told Stewart he would not be allowed to preach, as the congregation wanted to use the time to express their appreciation to him! He then presented to the pastor a framed appreciation certificate, a Nikomat camera and carrying case, and a boutonniere. He gave Mrs. Stewart a monetary gift from the church and an orchid corsage. The remaining time was taken by individual members of the congregation coming forward to express love and appreciation to the pastor and his wife. A covered dish meal was served in Fellowship Hall to 250.

James Chambers, Pastor, Dies

The funeral for James Chambers, 66, was held at 2 p.m., Oct. 24, at Hillsboro Church, Scott County. Officiating ministers were C. C. Cornelius, John Hopper, and Herbert Eichelberger.

Chambers died Oct. 23 at Rush Hospital in Meridian, following an extended illness. He had been a Baptist minister for 25 years, having been pastor at Sand Ridge (Scott); Line Creek (Scott); Springdale, and County Line (Attala); and County Line (Wayne).

He had formerly lived in Kosciusko and State Line, and lived most of his life in Scott County, but had lived in Meridian for the past 18 months. He was a member of the North Crest Church in Meridian.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Bessie Lee Harrell Chambers, Meridian; one daughter, Mrs. Raymond (Betty) Davis, Meridian; three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Sleep is something that science cannot abolish — but babies can.

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Dear Ray,

We were home this weekend and saw Mother gleam as she listened to our conversations. She could hear and didn't have to say — I can't hear you! My what a glorious day, and special thanks are in store for you to be so kind and concerned to do what you did. We will be ever grateful to you for such a generous gesture. Thank you is such an often used phrase, but it is meant very sincerely and from the bottom of my heart to you for granting Mother a sense which she has long been without.

That was surely above and beyond your call of duty, but appreciated so deeply by all of us. Best to you, Inez and family and God truly bless you.

Mary Alice



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Staff Changes

Norman Smith is the new minister of music and youth at Fernwood Church, Fernwood. He is the son of Robert Smith, pastor of Calvary Church, Pricedale, and Mrs. Smith.



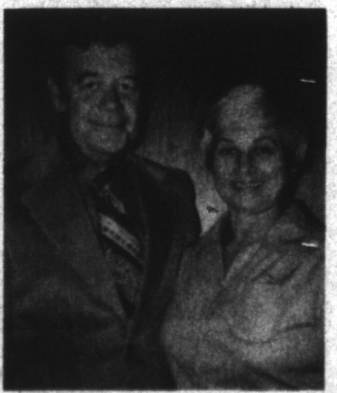
He is a second year student at Southwest Junior College, Summit, where he is active in the BSU.

Smith resigned as minister of music and youth at Galilee Church, Gloster, to accept the work at Fernwood, where H. P. Porter, is pastor.



William A. Huff, Jr. has accepted the call as pastor of the First Church, Anguilla.

Huff graduated from Miss. State University and is a 1977 graduate of New Orleans Seminary. He is married to the former Vicki Lynn Glaze. They have a daughter, Stephanie.



ROBERT F. TAYLOR and his wife have moved to Kosciusko where he is the new minister of music and education at First Church. For the past five years he has been minister of music, associate pastor, and youth director at First Church, Hot Springs, Ark. He previously served at First, Starkville.

At Kosciusko he succeeds Pete Freeman as minister of education and Tommy Echols as minister of music. Ed Gandy is the pastor.

Bible Conference At Oakland

Oakland Church, Corinth, is planning to have a Bible Conference Nov. 7-9, at 7 p.m.

Jake Mills and Banks Hardy will speak Monday on the subject of

"Home". Billy Lee Foley and Kara Blackard will talk Tuesday evening about the "Hereafter." Mike Burczynski and Ralph Culp will speak Wednesday on the topic of the "Holy Spirit." Tommy Vinson is the pastor.

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Blast Slightly Damages Israel Baptist Building

By Elizabeth F. Smith

JERUSALEM (BP) — Baptist House, the Baptist headquarters building in West Jerusalem, was slightly damaged when a bomb exploded near the kitchen entrance.

Three persons sleeping in various parts of the house were unharmed and quickly called the police and Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board representatives in the city, John Anthony and Thomas Nabors.

Police believe the explosive charge was a grenade which apparently had

been placed in a plastic pail in the corner of a partially enclosed porch outside the kitchen. The force of the explosion blew out the glass in the door and 10 windows on that side of the house, tore a hole in the concrete floor of the porch, damaged the ceiling of the porch and broke a large water pipe.

Police are continuing to investigate. The motive for the incident has not been established and no arrests have been made.

The large limestone building houses the headquarters of the Israel Baptist

Mission (organization of Southern Baptist representatives), a library, and a bookstore and information center. It is used by the congregation of the West Jerusalem Baptist Church for Sabbath School rooms and as a fellowship hall. Nearby on the property are the chapel building and a small day-care kindergarten building.

Baptist House had been in use throughout Saturday beginning with Sabbath School in the morning and including the worship services of the congregation at mid-day. The last group, a Bible study and prayer group in Hebrew, left the building at 11 p.m. The explosion occurred at 12:30 a.m., Oct. 9.

Several times in the past, Baptist House has been the target of protest by individuals and groups who oppose the ministry of Baptists and other Christian groups in Jerusalem. Usually the attackers have hurled stones through windows.

The most extensive damage occurred Feb. 11, 1974, when the bookshop and office were partially burned by a fire bomb thrown through the glass front. On that same day, arsonists also attacked two other Christian institutions in Jerusalem. Later, four young people, ages 16-19, were arrested and brought to trial. They were sentenced to terms ranging from 9 to 18 months.

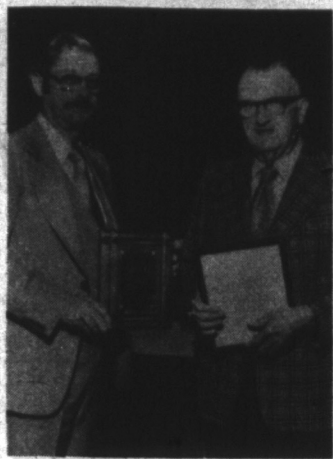
Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek telephoned Nabors to express his deep regret over the bombing incident at Baptist House.

Mayor Kollek told Nabors that the Jerusalem municipality will finance the repairs to the damaged building. The municipality has a fund for repairing damage to private property by bombings or terrorist and has aided Baptists several times in the past. Repairs to windows, porch floor and ceiling and water pipes are already under way.

"We have no idea who is responsible for the incident," Nabors said. "The police are investigating. We feel that they are handling the case properly, and we are cooperating with them."

Earlier, Nabors told newspaper reporters that the Baptist convention in Israel (the local name for the Israel Baptist Mission) deprecates this type of action towards any group — religious or non-religious. "We do not condone violence in any form," he said.

Elizabeth F. (Mrs. James W.) Smith is press representative for Southern Baptists in Israel.



Henderson and Webb
Photograph by Duff Stephens, reporter for the BULVAR COMMERCIAL

Bolivar Clerk Retires After 22 Years

Bolivar County Association's clerk, Malcolm A. Webb, is retiring after 22 years of service. As an appreciation, on behalf of the association, Odie Henderson director of missions, presented Webb a framed copy of a resolution which recognized his many years of devoted service.

The resolution which the association adopted Oct. 18, instructed that the 1977 Associational Minutes be dedicated to Webb. He was also cited for compiling a brief history of the association on its 50th anniversary.

Webb was also given an engraved plaque along with a monetary gift in gratitude for the friendly and congenial spirit with which he has assisted, at one time or other, all of the churches in the association. Webb and his wife will continue to live in Cleveland where they are both active in the Immanuel Church.

Allison, Stewart Teach Bible At Highland, Vicksburg

Highland, Vicksburg, James Messer, pastor, is having a Bible Conference November 2-6. Sessions are from 7 to 8:30 nightly, and at the regular 11 a.m. worship time on Sunday. The services are being broadcast over WKYV-FM Vicksburg.

Conference leaders are Gray Allison, president of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Memphis, Tenn., and Don Stewart, chairman of the Department of Religion and Philosophy

Devotional

The Person God Uses

By Curtis Roland, Pastor, East Morton

Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister (Joshua 1:1).

Joshua never thought that he would one day be the leader of the Israelite host. He was content "to play second fiddle" and be Moses' servant. However, God was preparing him to be Israel's leader in the land of promise.

Christ will work with anyone who will give him a consecrated heart. He is not impressed with pious false humility when we say, "He cannot use me because I'm not clever, I'm not talented, I'm not articulate." He could use a lowly donkey (Matthew 21). He can use you.

Christ uses average, ordinary Christians. There was not a highly educated man among the original disciples. Not one was a scholar. Not one had wealth or fame. Four had been fishermen, one had been a hated tax collector. They were men with weaknesses and flaws like the rest of us. Some had a fiery nature. They stumbled and fell. Yet Jesus took these obscure men and through them turned the world upside down.

Dwight L. Moody was an unlettered man. He never went to college. His grammar was atrocious. Someone said he was the only man he ever heard who could say "Mesopotamia" in one syllable. Moody gave God everything he had, and God used him far beyond other more talented, but less dedicated preachers. He was the greatest evangelistic influence of the nineteenth century.

At Carisbrooke Castle in England, a donkey works in a little round house. His job is to go around and around in a circle. That is all he does, but he is not walking in circles for nothing. From a deep well in the heart of the castle, he draws water. A spirited horse would not submit himself to such drudgery or monotony. But even the most obscure and humble among us can draw water from the well of the Spirit of God and give a drink to the thirsty.

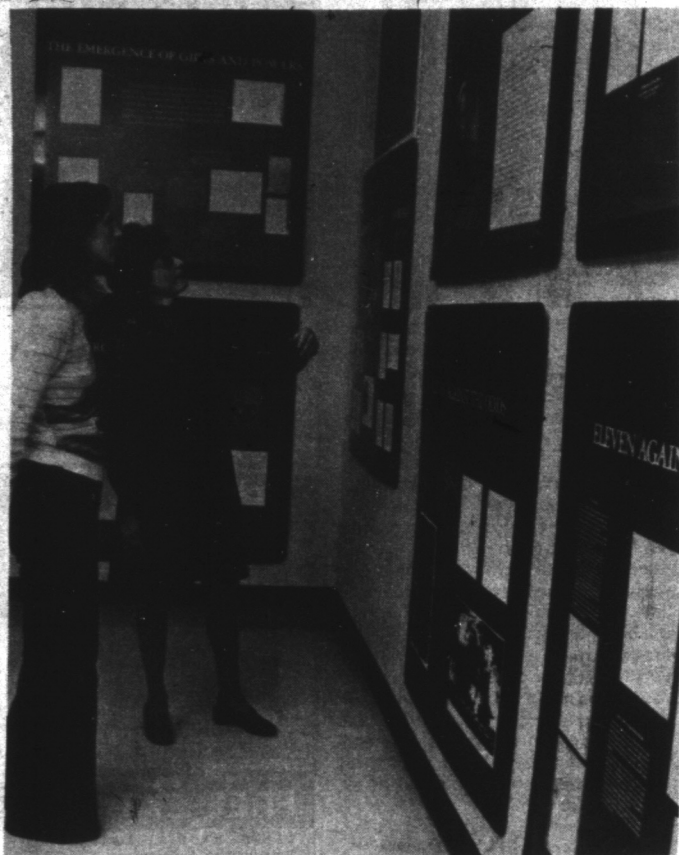
Revival Dates

Ridgecrest Church, Jackson: "Real Life Revival," Nov. 6-11; Sunday services at 10:55 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekdays at noon 12-12:50 (Lunch will be served. Reservations for lunch are not required. The theme of the noonday services will be the "Spirit Filled Life.") weekday evening services at 7:30; Peter McLeod, minister, First Church, Waco, Tex., and native of

Schotts, Scotland, evangelist; Robert W. McConnell, minister of music, First Church, Bossier City, La., singer; Julius Thompson, pastor.

Trinity Church, Vicksburg: Oct. 30-Nov. 4; services at 7 p.m.; Howard D. Smith, pastor, evangelist; J. B. Betts, Southaven, music evangelist.

First Church, Richton: Nov. 6-11; services at 7:30 nightly and at 11 a.m. on Sunday; J. Roy McComb, First Church, Columbia, evangelist; Bill Wade, Richton, song leader, and also soloist for Sunday morning and Monday evening; Ronnie Oswald, graduate student in piano, pianist; Randy Vonkanel, minister of music, First Bay St. Louis, to be featured in special music; music Wednesday evening by the Newsman Quartet and the Children's Choir of First Church, Richton; music for Tuesday evening, by Carpenter's Wood, ensemble from William Carey directed by Jan Douglas; music for Friday evening, Glenda Dozier, senior at William Carey College; Ramon Leake, pastor.



Traveling Art Exhibit

Tina Dickerson, a junior art major at Blue Mountain College from Hickory Flat, and Carla Benson (left) of the BMC administrative staff view some of the displays in connection with a traveling art exhibit on "The Black Presence During The American Revolution — 1770-1800" which was showing at the Student Union Building on the BMC campus through October and was assembled by the Smithsonian Institute for use by colleges and universities.

Sunday School Lesson: International For November 6

Persons Above Tradition

By Wm. J. Fallis
Luke 13:10-17;
1 Corinthians 9:19-23

A teacher was trying to get her young class to think about some recent inventions and discoveries, and she asked, "What is here now that was not here fifteen years ago?" After a few seconds of wondering, one boy piped up with, "Me." It did not help the teacher's quest, but it showed a growing awareness of selfhood. Because we are so much like the next person, we do not recognize the significance of being a person. Unlike a granite boulder, an orchid, or a star, a person can think and laugh, remember and hope, choose and love. He or she can worship God and relate to other persons in loyalty and love. Only with the help of other persons do we learn how to become mature persons. So, persons are the real wealth of the world.

The Lesson Explained
Healing A Crippled Woman
(Luke 13:10-13)
On a sabbath probably in Galilee Jesus was teaching in a synagogue; we do not know whether he had volunteered or had been asked to take that part in the service. As he was speaking, he noticed in the crowd a woman with a crooked back. For eighteen years she had endured that infirmity. Whether it was a bone or muscle problem we do not know, but it was attributed to an evil spirit. Jesus called out to her and declared: "You are rid of your trouble" (v. 13, NEB). Then when she came near him, he placed his hands on her; and she was able to stand up straight. And that wasn't all — she praised God!

Correcting A Tradition
(Luke 13:14-17)
That was too much for the president of the synagogue. A pitiful woman who had suffered in silence all those years was now disturbing public worship. The popular young rabbi was winning new favor with the common people. But the ruler was indignant and claimed that Jesus had violated the sabbath, citing Deuteronomy 6:13 as his authority. If you must get healed, he was saying, take care of that on weekdays but not on the sabbath. It was a rebuke to Jesus and a "put

down" to the long-suffering woman. It revealed no compassion.

Jesus responded in a stern voice and probably with his eyes flashing in judgment on those who agreed with the president. No one of them would think it a violation of the sabbath to lead a thirsty animal to water. But they resented Jesus' deed of kindness to the woman, who was also a descendant of Abraham. They applied the law of the sabbath differently in meeting the needs of mere animals and of persons.

Life And Work For November 6

Breaking Down Barriers

By Bill Duncan
Long Beach, First
John 4



God and man. The only way to overcome these barriers and to build bridges is through Christ. Differences of background, education, and wealth give way to harmony in the family of God.

The sequence in John's Gospel is significant. In John 3, we see the ministry to the upper-ups in human achievement and ministry to those less fortunate in John 4. The woman of Samaria was not only a sinner, but a foreigner. The barriers were high, but Jesus removed all of them.

The story is significant because of the character of Jesus that we see. It shows us the reality of His humanity. He was tired from traveling. His exhaustion is seen in the context of showing His deity. It shows us the warmth of His sympathy. It was very natural for her to talk with Him. As a friend, He led her to seek herself in the

Adjusting For The Gospel's Sake
(1 Cor. 9:19-23)

This passage is in the middle of three chapters dealing with some practical aspects of Christian freedom, one of the remarkable gifts of salvation. Although Paul knew he was free from domination by sin and by others, he was really enslaved to others by his desire for their salvation.

First, Paul put himself into the place of the Jew to look at Christianity through his eyes. Although he under-

stood the limitations of the law, he tried to use its advantage point to win those who trusted the law. Second, he tried to stand in the shoes of the Gentile — the one "without law" — to present the claims of Christ effectively to him. Paul lived "under the law of Christ." Third, he did the same thing with regard to "the weak" — the immature who are very scrupulous about religious practices. All three groups represent traditions that could resist the gospel, but they also included persons who needed it.

He began at her point of conscious need, deep thirst. He led her to think of the Messiah and identified Himself as that one who would meet her spiritual thirst with living water. He wanted her to know that her soul's needs could be met by the Redeemer, who would change every area of her life. Evangelism's purpose is best expressed when those who are evangelized become evangelists. The woman went back into the community and told the men by her changed life that she had found the Christ. Her approach was to ask the men "could he be the Messiah?" She was a woman and moreover the kind of woman for whom others had little regard. By her approach, they could discover for themselves that this was the Christ. Because of her, some came to believe for themselves. "We wonder whether the disciples, when they went into the city, had been as eager as was this woman to bear witness regarding the Christ."

Jesus had been hungry and tired, but he soon forgot both hunger and fatigue in meeting human needs. When the disciples returned and offered Him food, Jesus explained His resurgence of energy and vigor by saying, "I have

eyes that were prejudiced. The woman was amazed that this strange man showed an interest in her spiritual welfare or that he even cared. Compassion truly counts. Without it, knowledge and vision falter. He told her of her careless past in such a way that he did not repel her, but led her to seek more guidance and to yearn for cleansing. He began at her point of conscious need, deep thirst. He led her to think of the Messiah and identified Himself as that one who would meet her spiritual thirst with living water. He wanted her to know that her soul's needs could be met by the Redeemer, who would change every area of her life. Evangelism's purpose is best expressed when those who are evangelized become evangelists. The woman went back into the community and told the men by her changed life that she had found the Christ. Her approach was to ask the men "could he be the Messiah?" She was a woman and moreover the kind of woman for whom others had little regard. By her approach, they could discover for themselves that this was the Christ. Because of her, some came to believe for themselves. "We wonder whether the disciples, when they went into the city, had been as eager as was this woman to bear witness regarding the Christ."



Treasurer Retires At 77

Oktibbeha Association gave a plaque to S. D. Allen, left, expressing gratitude for Allen's 19 years of service as associational treasurer. Allen retired from this responsibility at age 77. Ed Deuschle, right, associational moderator, made the presentation at the 57th annual session of the association, meeting at Friendship Church on Oct. 17. The association voted to dedicate the 1977 Minutes to Allen, "a good and faithful servant."

meat to eat that ye know not of." His approach in life is a guiding principle for all His followers. We may encounter barriers in any area of life. Our task in life is to engage in a ministry of overcoming barriers.

Off The Record

A country preacher was preaching very pointedly to his congregation one Sunday night.

He said, "Now let the church walk." Deacon Jones said, "Amen, let it walk."

The preacher then said, "Let the church run." Deacon Jones said, "Amen, parson, let it run."

"Let the church fly," said the preacher.

"Amen, brother, let it fly," said Deacon Jones.

"Now it's going to take money to let it fly, brother."

"Let it walk," said Deacon Jones.

"Let it walk."

It's surprising how many persons unselfishly will neglect their own work in order to tell you how to run yours.

"I just love lying in bed in the morning and ringing my bell for my maid." "Oh, I didn't know you have a maid."

"I don't, but I have a bell."

Husband to wife: "How do you expect me to remember your birthday when you never look any older?"

"Bobby, last night there were two pieces of chocolate cake in the pantry. Now there is one. How do you explain that?"

"I didn't see the other one, mom."

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